

Welcome to SPC Kids Corner!

Sunday, January 7, 2024

JESUS TEACHES IN PARABLES

Mark 4:1-34

Key Verse:

“And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

Mark 4:20

The Point:

Jesus teaches us about the kingdom of God.

Making Connections:

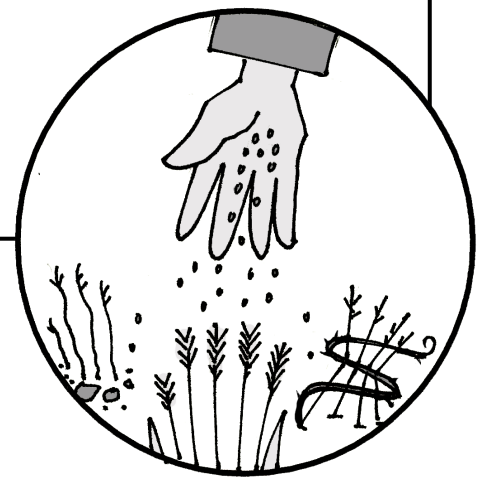
God's Kingdom Announced

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

What Are Parables?

Spiritual Practice:

Service



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

We have already heard a great deal about the kingdom of God in the first few chapters of the Gospel of Mark. Today's text focuses on the question of how and in whom the kingdom best takes root. We have already heard about so many ways that Jesus is bringing God's kingdom into the world through his own words and deeds. This lesson gives us an opportunity to ask about our own role in spreading God's kingdom in our world.

Story Summary:

Jesus Teaches in Parables

Jesus begins using parables to share information about God's kingdom by telling about a sower who indiscriminately tossed seeds. Some seeds fell on a path, others on rocky ground, yet others among thorns, and a final batch into some good, rich soil where they thrived. He then goes on to explain the meaning of the parable: what is sown is God's word and there are many reasons that it does not thrive, but when it falls onto the good soil it bears an abundance of fruit.

The Point

Jesus teaches us about the kingdom of God.

God's word grows inside God's people when it is truly heard, producing a healthy faith. As humans, we want to control what type of soil we are—the type that hears the words and obeys or the type that chooses to walk away. But, of course, each patch of earth does not choose what type of soil it is. Instead, God sows seeds everywhere and we can trust the ultimate gardener to provide the water, sunshine and nutrients for growth.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

What Are Parables?

The word parable means “a placing beside” or a comparison. In the Bible, parables are usually short, fictional stories. They compare everyday objects or events to a surprising spiritual truth. Parables were common in ancient Greece, and included an easy-to-understand point to the story. Jesus' use of parables is different. There usually is not an easy-to-understand point. There are many different possible interpretations of Jesus' parables. Jesus' parables were designed to challenge the listener. This usually featured characters in the parable behaving in unexpected ways. This shows how the kingdom of God also operates in unexpected ways.

Spiritual Practice: Service

After the seed of God's word has been sown in us, we are blessed to be able to sow the words in the world in which we live. Just like the sower in the parable, we toss God's words of love and promise to all who may be able to hear.

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

One day some men brought their friend who was paralyzed to Jesus. Jesus told the man, "Your sins are forgiven." Some teachers of the law didn't like what Jesus said, so instead Jesus said, "Get up, take your mat and walk." Why did Jesus heal the man?

Use the code to find the letters that fit in the blank. Match the arrangement of the lines with those in the code. The first one is done for you.

J U L L O L O U S O U E

 O U N O U L U

 O O O U U O O U

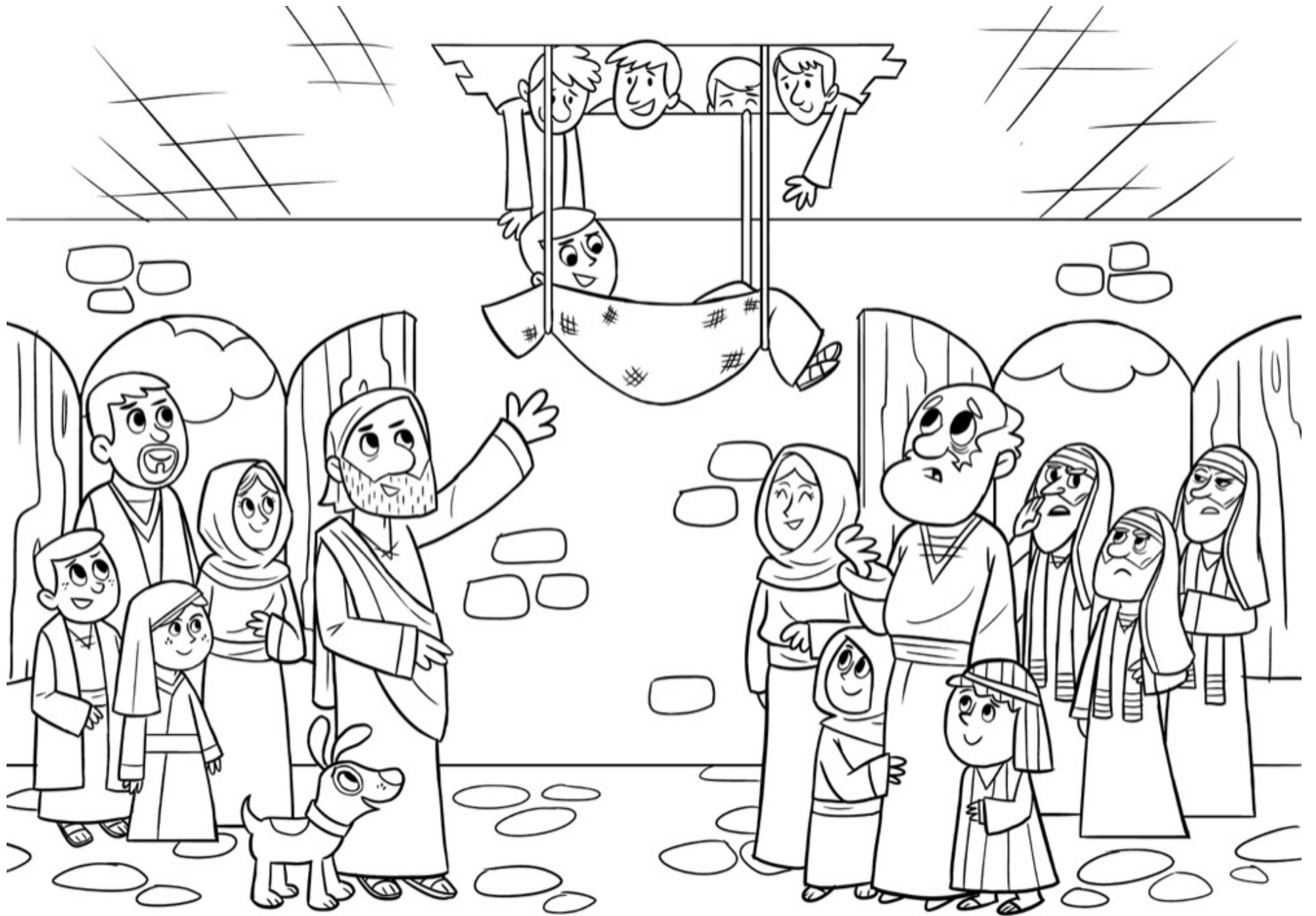
 O O O O U U O

 O U O O O

 U O U O U U

 O O O O O O U L O U L .

J	N	E	O	S
P	U	W	H	K
A	L	R	F	D
T	G	M	I	V



INTERVIEW WITH A FRIEND

Friend's Full name: _____

Birthday: ____/____/____

People in their family:

Hobbies:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Favourite book:

Favourite song:

Favourite movie:

Proudest achievement:

Best Joke:

Dream job:

QUALITIES OF A GOOD FRIEND

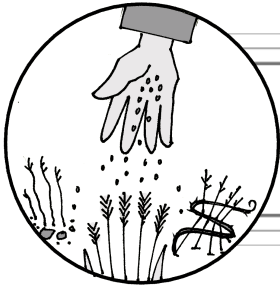
What do these verses teach about friendship?

Bible Verse	Lesson
Proverbs 17:17	
Proverbs 12:26	
Proverbs 13:20	
Proverbs 22:24-25	
1 Corinthians 15:33	
Proverbs 18:24	
John 15:12-15	
Exodus 33:11	
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW

Small seeds can create great faith.

Type of Plant	Seed Size	Estimated Plant Size



THE STORY @ HOME



Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2024-2024)

Lesson #2-18
Mark 4:1-34

LAST WEEK

Jesus is baptized and tempted, begins his ministry, and calls his first disciples. Later, he forgives and heals a paralyzed man and eats with people the religious leaders do not approve of. (Mark 1:1-20; Mark 2:1-22).

THIS WEEK

Jesus teaches about the kingdom of God through the Parables of the Sower, Mustard Seed, and others (Mark 4:1-34)

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus begins using parables to share information about God's kingdom by telling about a sower who indiscriminately tossed seeds. Some seeds fell on a path, others on rocky ground, yet others among thorns, and a final batch into some good, rich soil where they thrived. He then goes on to explain the meaning of the parable: what is sown is God's word and there are many reasons that it does not thrive, but when it falls onto the good soil it bears an abundance of fruit.

PRACTICE SERVICE

After the seed of God's word has been sown in us, we are blessed to be able to sow the words in the world in which we live. Just like the sower in the parable, we toss God's words of love and promise to all who may be able to hear. Brainstorm together how you can share the good news of God's love to people you encounter this week, in big or small ways.

NEXT WEEK

Jesus provides the shelter and comfort of God's kingdom when he heals a man with an unclean spirit (Mark 5:1-20).

THE POINT

Jesus teaches us about the kingdom of God.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

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Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✝ In what way does this text teach about the theme of God's Kingdom Announced?
- ✝ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✝ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Mark 4:1-9

The Parable of the Sower.
Act out this parable?

Monday—Read Mark 4:10-20

The sower explained.
Call or text someone who lives far away just to tell them Jesus loves you and you do, too! It is that easy to sow a seed of love.

Tuesday—Read Mark 4:21-25

More parables.
Read these stories with a flashlight, camp lantern, or candle. Talk about the light.

Wednesday—Read Mark 4:26-34

Kingdom seeds.
Hold mustard seeds while you read this parable.

Thursday—Read Mark 4:35-41

Stilling the storm.
Play in a container full of water while you hear this story.

Friday—Read Luke 8:1-3

The faithful women.
List as many women in the Bible as you can think of. If you need help, use your Bible or look online.

Saturday—Read Mark 5:1-13

Jesus heals an outcast.
Use stuffed animals to act out this story.