

MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

Week 15: Worry (from Luke 13:18-30)

To the Teacher:

I planted two fruit trees in my backyard. This past season, one of them started giving us lemons! Unfortunately, if you've been to my home you know, there are also huge weeds growing around the small trees. In fact, it was difficult to find the trees through the weeds until we finally pulled the weeds out. This is like the kingdom of God, planted into the broken world, and growing in the midst of darkness. Not all will see the kingdom through the weeds of the world. Take time to pray for your kids this week to see God's kingdom in Jesus!

- **Big Idea:** The Kingdom of God has come, but not all will see it.
- **Question:** Have you ever planted a seed before? Have you ever watched bread rise in the oven or cookies expand as they bake? Can you name something else that takes time but is worth waiting for?
- **Starter:** 'Balloon Blow Up'
Fill a balloon with 1 tbsp baking soda. Fill an empty water bottle with 1/4 cup vinegar. Place the balloon on the opening of the bottle. Get one of the kids to hold the balloon up so that all the baking soda falls into the bottle. Watch the chemical reaction blow the balloon up! Use this to demonstrate how yeast leavens dough, like in Jesus' parable.

Here's a video with instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Su4EbX6K5vc>

- **Story:** from Luke 13:18-30

[READ]

Jesus continued healing and caring for people. Most people did not understand who Jesus was and what he had come to do, so he also spent a lot of time teaching about God's kingdom. He used stories to help teach.

One time he said, "What is the kingdom of God like? It's kind of like a mustard seed that someone planted in their garden and it grew to become a tree big enough for the birds to make nests in its branches."

And again he said, "What can the kingdom of God be compared to? It's like yeast mixed in a bunch of flour. You don't see it until it makes the flour rise."

He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to him, “Lord, will there only be a few saved?” And he said to them, “Many will try to enter the kingdom but will not be able to, because the door to get in is narrow. When the master of the house has shut the door and you’re still outside knocking, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Go away, you who do evil!’ There will be much sadness and destruction, when you see all God’s people from centuries past in the kingdom but you yourselves are not allowed in. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God. And see, some who are considered last in your world will be made first in the kingdom, and some who are first in your world will be made last.”

[Things to Point Out]

- When a seed is planted in the ground, you can’t see what is growing right away, but it is there! How has Jesus planted the seed of God’s kingdom on earth?
- What does it look like for Jesus’ kingdom to grow on earth? *(Help guide the answer to ways the Church can live out the kingdom in everyday situations)*
- Why do you think the door into the kingdom is narrow? *(Help guide them to the answer that Jesus is the **only** way into God’s kingdom)*

• **Prayer:**

God, we trust that Your kingdom is the best and King Jesus will rule the earth. Help us by Your Spirit to see Your kingdom and to live in it, by loving You and loving others. Amen.

• **Craft:** Here are a few ideas...

- You can buy mustard seeds at your local grocery store. Have the kids glue them to their sheet of paper and draw a tree or flower around it.

Like this:



- *Or use the coloring page attached, have the kids cut out each square, and place them in the correct order.*

• **BLESS Activity:**

For kids to do during the week

- **BLESS:** Jesus says those who think they are greater than others will be made the least in his kingdom, but those who put others first will be honored by him. Find ways to put others needs before your own this week.
- **LISTEN:** To God this week. What is He telling you about His kingdom? How can you live in it?

Leaven Bread Parable

Cut out the pictures and put them in the correct order of how to make bread.

