



## STORY TIME WITH JESUS

### Parable of the mustard seed

The aim of this session is to:

To help the children explore the parable of the mustard seed.

Verse: Matt 13:31-32

#### Activities:

\*Children can collect things that are outside- leaves, sticks, seeds etc. You can then paste the items on a piece of paper.

\* If you have seeds at home you can compare the sizes of the different seeds. The mustard seed is very small. You can try to find the smallest seed to compare to the mustard seed.

Story time: Read the verses for the day. Matthew 13:31-32

(Grab a piece of paper and a pencil for you to use to draw as you tell the story.)

Today we are talking about *Growing God's Kingdom*. Jesus said that God's Kingdom is like a mustard seed - teeny tiny. {Draw a small seed about 5 cm from the bottom of the page.} Jesus plants the seed. What happens to a seed? It grows! First, it puts down roots [draw them] and then it starts to push a shoot up above the ground [draw it]. The shoot grows and grows and gets bigger and bigger and puts out branches [keep drawing] and those branches put out smaller branches and they grow leaves [draw them]. Eventually, that tiny seed has grown into really quite a big tree. The tree is big enough for birds to come and make their home there [draw them!].

Jesus is the mustard seed. How was Jesus planted? When he died and was buried in a tomb, It was like Jesus being planted. But then what happened? Jesus came alive again. And when Jesus came alive again, what happened? The church started to grow. Jesus had 12 disciples. But he had other friends as well, people who had loved his teaching and followed him. In fact, there were more than 120 of them, all living in Jerusalem. But did it stop there? No! Jesus' Kingdom continues to grow and we can continue to grow God's kingdom.

#### Response/prayer-

Talk about all the places in the World that Jesus' teachings are taught. Continue to pray for all the places in the world that don't know Jesus. Continue to pray that God will show you where he wants you to plant seeds and that they will grow.

### Craft:

Draw and color your own picture of a tree with birds in it to help them to remember the story or print and color the attached picture for younger children.

