

SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Proper 6B

Please refer to Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines [here](#).



MAIN POINT

We are like seeds planted in God's word so our faith can grow

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade. Mark 4:31-32

AIDS

Packet of seeds, pot of soil, drop cloth, little shovel. You could have mini bags of seeds for the children to take home and plant - they could take care of it and watch it grow. They could take photos and bring them to church each week to see how they are growing. They could eventually be re-potted into a bigger pot as needed and perhaps eventually even outside in the church garden. You could consider having some plants already growing, 'Here's some I prepared earlier'.

ADDRESS

Show the children the seeds you have brought. Show them how small they are.

How will this grow? What do we need to do with it?

e.g. Plant it in soil and water it.

We're going to plant this seed and I'm going to take care of it. You can have a look each week when you come to church to see how it is growing. What do you think will happen?

e.g. Talk about how it will sprout, and establish roots under the soil.

God uses this story to tell us that we need to be planted in soil. What kind of soil do you think he means? e.g. God's word, coming to church

The way we grow physically is by eating healthy food, drinking water, getting sleep and exercise. Our faith needs to grow too by learning about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We can do this by reading the Bible, praying and coming to church. These things are our spiritual food and water.

I wonder what kind of plants we could be?

e.g. maybe a giving plant, a serving plant, a musical plant or a kind-hearted plant?

We can all bring beauty and life to the world around us by using our gifts and talents that God has given us.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you that we have people in our church that help us to learn more about you. Help us to grow in our faith as we read the Bible, pray and worship together. Help us discover the unique gifts you have given us so we can be a blessing to the people around us. Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home, Worship Notes* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

For more information about Grow Ministries and other resources for ministry to children, young people and their families, please contact:

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