

ALLEY SG – June 6th- 7th, 2026

Bible Story: What Is God's Kingdom? The Stories of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast •
Matthew 13:31-34

Conversation Starter: What is God's kingdom?

Monthly Memory Verse: "May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven." • Matthew 6:10 NIV

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bibles, Building materials (e.g., LEGO®, mini erasers, sugar cubes, dried pasta shapes), Paper plates

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Bible.
- Have kids look up Matthew 13:31-34.
- Talk about how Jesus used parables to teach us about God and His kingdom.
- Read Matthew 13:31-34 as a group.
- Ask, "What did you learn from these two parables that Jesus taught?"
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Divide the group into teams of two or three.
- Give each team a pile of the tiny building materials.
- Challenge them: "Using only these tiny pieces, work together to build the tallest and strongest structure you can in five minutes."
- After five minutes, invite each group to present their structure.
- Discuss the challenges and successes of building something big from only small parts.
- Ask: What is God's kingdom?

Say: "It's amazing what you can build from such small pieces! That's the exact point Jesus was making in the parable or story He told about the mustard seed. A mustard seed is a very *tiny* little round ball, not much bigger than a speck. But while most herb plants stay pretty small, under the right conditions, a mustard seed can grow into a plant so big that it's the size of a tree! Jesus gave us an amazing picture: Something so small you can barely see grows up into a leafy, branching tree that even provides rest and shelter.

That's what God's kingdom is like! When Jesus returned to heaven, there were only a few hundred believers. But as the Holy Spirit enabled those believers to share about Jesus and the love of God, more and more people began to follow Jesus. And now, around 2.5 billion people say they believe in Jesus. That's nearly one-third of people across the whole world. So many people take refuge and find shelter in God's love, just like birds find shelter in a mustard tree."

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: “Mustard Seed Word Search” Activity Page (one per kid), “Mustard Seed Answer Key” Activity Page (one per bin), Pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Mustard Seed Word Search” Activity Page.
- Explain that hidden in the puzzle are words related to today’s Bible Story, like “GROW,” “FAITH,” “KINGDOM,” and “JESUS.”
- Challenge kids to see who can find all the words. (Share that some of the words might be backwards!)
- Review how each word relates to the story and why.

Say: “It’s kind of interesting trying to find small words hidden inside a big puzzle. That’s a little like what Jesus did in our Bible Story today. Jesus used small, everyday things to help people find and understand a huge, important idea: what God’s kingdom is really like. Jesus knew that simply learning the right information is not enough. He wanted to engage our hearts and our imaginations so that we don’t just know about God’s love and His kingdom but learn to experience them for ourselves.”

3. Discussion Questions

- What is God’s kingdom?
- Why do you think Jesus used ordinary things to explain God’s kingdom?
- How does faith grow even when we don’t see it?
- What’s one small thing you can do that might have a big impact?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible.
- Invite them to look up Matthew 6:10
- Explain that the kids will have a friendly competition: ‘The Speed Verse Challenge’!
- Time each kid saying the Memory Verse as fast as they can while still saying every word clearly.
- Write each kid’s name on the paper and record their time.
- After every kid has gone once, give them a chance to try and beat their own time.
- Cheer for each kid as they try the challenge.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? (*Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises*)
- “God, thank You for showing us that You use small, ordinary things to do amazing work in the world. Please help us to be faithful with the small things this week. Take our small acts of kindness and our quiet prayers and use them to point to You and Your kingdom in our schools, in our homes, and in our hearts. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- Remind the kids that when they leave, their parents should get a text message on their phones telling them what we learned this week. AND they will get a link to an activity they can do at home and bring back for 3 Alley Cash!

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive, ask the kids to say one act of kindness they can do this week.

