

SUPPLIES: Story Page, flower cutout, green yarn, tape, crayons

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Give each child a story page and crayons.**
 - *“Come on over to the table, friends! In our story today, Jesus told a story about a farmer who planted seeds. Let’s make a special picture to show what happens when a seed in good soil starts to grow!”*

- ⇒ **Encourage the children to color the story page. Let each child choose a flower cutout and tape it to a piece of green yarn. Feed the yarn through the two holes in the page and tie a knot in the back.**
 - *“First, let’s get our picture ready. You can color the sky and the soil. Make it a beautiful place for a plant to grow! (Allow time to color.) Now, you can each pick a flower for your plant and we’ll add it to the picture so that it can grow. (Place the flower on the yarn and tape together from the back. Feed the yarn through the holes in the picture and tie a knot in the back. Pull the yarn so that the flower is at the bottom of the page.) Watch this. When the seeds are planted in good soil, it grows, and grows, and grows. (Pull the yarn to move the flower up the page.) Now you try. Slowly pull the string up! Look! Your plant is growing! Pull, pull, pull! It’s growing bigger and bigger! Wow! You made your plant grow!”*

- ⇒ **Review the Bible Story and bring it back to the Bottom Line**
 - *“You did a super job helping your plant grow! Jesus’ story teaches us that when we listen to His words and do what He says, it’s like our hearts are good soil, and good things can grow inside us, just like this plant grew from a tiny seed!*
 - **“Who teaches you about God’s kingdom?”**
 - **“Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom!”**

July Week 1

Kingdom Quest

July 5

ACTIVITY #1

Story Seeds

SUPPLIES: Story seeds pages, small pom-poms

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Set out the Story Seed pages on the floor and give each child 4 pom-pom 'seeds.'**
- *"Let's act out the story Jesus told about the farmer! These pom-poms are our seeds, and these pictures show where they landed."*
- ⇒ **Review the story as you point out each page and encourage the children to throw their 'seeds' on each page.**
- *"First, Jesus said some seeds fell on the hard path! (Point to the path mat.) Let's toss some seeds there! (Let child toss pom-poms to the hard path mat.) Oh no! The birds came and ate them! Gobble, gobble! (Pinch your fingers as your bird to "eat" the pom-poms.)*
 - *"Then, some seeds fell on the rocks! (Point to the rocks mat.) Let's toss some seeds there. (Let child toss pom-poms to the rock mat.) They started to grow, but it got too hot and there was no water. (Pretend to be a hot sun.) Some seeds fell in the thorns! Let's toss seeds there. (Let child toss pom-poms to the thorny mat.) The thorns grew bigger and the plants could not grow. But some seeds fell on the GOOD SOIL! Let's toss lots of seeds here! (Let child toss pom-poms to the good soil mat.) These seeds grew into big, strong, healthy plants! Hooray!"*
- ⇒ **Bring it back to the Bottom Line.**
- *"In the story Jesus told, Jesus said we want our hearts to be like the good soil. When we hear and DO what Jesus says, God's kingdom grows. When we love like Jesus, God's kingdom grows. When we share our toys, God's kingdom grows. When we say kind words to our friends, God's kingdom grows. Jesus teaches us so many good things. When we listen to Jesus and do what He says, God's kingdom grows!*
 - ***"Who teaches you about God's kingdom?"***
 - ***"Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom!"***

July Week 1

Kingdom Quest

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ACTIVITY #2

How He Teaches Us

SUPPLIES: Foam cube, image cards (in sleeves of cube)

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather the children on the carpet.**

- *“Friends, Jesus wants us to know all about God’s kingdom, so he gives us lots of different ways to listen and learn. Let’s play a game to remember some of the ways we can learn about God’s kingdom!”*

⇒ **Encourage each child to roll the cube and review different ways Jesus teaches us about God’s kingdom. Review the question after each child’s turn.**

- *“There are so many ways we can hear from Jesus to learn about God’s kingdom. Let’s roll this cube and see what ways we can learn about God’s kingdom!”*
 - **Bible:** *We can read Jesus’ words about God’s kingdom*
 - **Praying:** *We can talk to Jesus about God’s kingdom*
 - **Church:** *We can learn about Jesus and God’s kingdom at church*
 - **Worship:** *We can sing songs that teach us about God’s kingdom*
 - **Grown-ups:** *We can ask grown-ups about Jesus and God’s kingdom*
 - **Heart:** *The most important thing Jesus teaches us is that he loves us!*
- *“Now tell me friends, **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom!**”*

⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**

- *“There are so many ways that we can learn about what Jesus teaches us about God’s kingdom!”*
- **“Who teaches you about God’s kingdom?”**
- **“Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom!”**

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ACTIVITY #3

Memory Verse Practice

SUPPLIES: Reward Stickers

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **This activity can be done from spots at the table or spaced out in the center of the room.**
 - *“Friends, we have an awesome memory verse to practice! I want to try saying it in lots of different ways!”*

- ⇒ **Do memory verse all together in a variety of ways.**
 - *“First, let’s say it once together. ‘Put God’s (point up with two hands) kingdom (make crown on head with hands) first.’ (Hold up one finger.) Matthew 6:33 (open hands like a book). Now let’s try it...”*
 - *Super loud*
 - *Super quiet*
 - *Really fast*
 - *Really Slow*
 - *Jumping up and down*
 - *Running in Place*
 - *All the boys*
 - *All the girls*
 - *Kids only*
 - *Teachers only*

- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested. If time permits, you can do one person at a time and give out stickers.**

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“Nice work, my friends!”*
 - ***Who teaches you about God’s kingdom?***
 - ***Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom!”***

July Week 1

Kingdom Quest

July 5

READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY JULY WEEK 1

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- *If Jesus Lived Inside My Heart* by Jill Roman Lord

REVIEW *(You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)*

- ⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line
 - ***Who teaches you about God's kingdom?***
 - ***Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom!***
- ⇒ Memory Verse
 - **"Put God's kingdom first." Matthew 6:33**

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

- ⇒ "Since Jesus teaches us how to help God's kingdom grow, let's make a list in our journal of all the 'good soil' things we can do! These are things that show we are listening to Jesus and putting Him first. When I say your name, tell me **one thing we can do to help the kingdom grow!** (pray and talk to God, sing songs, share our toys, help our friends, etc)
 - *Write each child's name on the weekly question strip/board/paper.*
- ⇒ Let's use our list when we pray...
- ⇒ Let's fold our hands and bow our heads and **pray**:
 - *"Dear God, thank You for teaching us about Your kingdom in the Bible. Please help us have hearts like good soil. Help us to hear what You say and then DO it. Help us to (read the list the children made). Please help us to grow big and strong for You this week, just like the seeds in the good soil. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."*