

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOR 7th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

SUNDAY 26th JULY 2020

Getting Started

Can you help the scientists find the missing objects shown below, in this picture?



Find 15 objects in the picture



Were you happy when you found all 15 objects? In today's bible story we hear about people who are very happy when they find treasure. The story is about five of Jesus's parables; remember a parable is a simple story to help people understand a very important thing.

The Story

Here are some parables that Jesus told the crowd:

The parable of the mustard seed

'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, sown in a field. It is the smallest of seeds but grows up into a huge bush, and the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.'

The parable of the leavened bread

'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman mixes with three lots of flour, until it is all leavened and ready to rise.'

The parable of the hidden treasure

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. Someone finds it, hides it again, and then is so very, very happy, he goes and sells everything he has to buy the field.'

The parable of the fine pearl

'The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant who is looking for fine pearls. He finds one very special and valuable pearl and goes and sells everything he has to buy it.'

The parable of the good and bad fish

'The kingdom of heaven is like a net. The net is full of fish, of all shapes and sizes. It is pulled ashore. The good fish are put in baskets while the bad fish are thrown away. And it will be like this at the end of time when the angels will separate the good people from the bad.'



Thinking About It

Two people in the story were happy when they found something, so happy that they thought it was worth giving everything up for. Jesus used these stories to help people think about the kingdom of God. Christians believe that the Kingdom of God is not a physical place on earth – you cannot draw a map of it or visit it for holidays. The Kingdom of God is a spiritual place, anywhere where God reigns as King and a place where we can live with God forever; it's worth giving everything up for.

The story of the fine pearl and hidden treasure have a Harry Potter connection. The invitation to become a student at Hogwarts and the knowledge that he was a wizard were so valuable to Harry, that he left behind everything he knew. True, he wasn't leaving anything all that great given where he lived and who he lived with, but still it is not easy to leave what you know. And, he had to walk straight into the brick column at the railroad station to catch the train to Hogwarts.

Jesus parables about the Kingdom of God challenge us to be as ready to step into something new for God, as Harry was challenged to step into that column and go to Hogwarts. And remember you may be small, but just like the mustard seed and the yeast, you are all important in the kingdom of God.

Activities



Spot the eight differences in the pictures. You might have to search really hard!



Find words from today's story which Jesus uses to describe God's kingdom.

z	y	e	s	l	a	k	m	i	f
g	g	d	n	r	w	n	k	o	b
c	n	x	e	a	s	w	d	t	a
g	k	i	t	e	r	c	r	r	i
m	g	z	h	p	k	e	p	t	d
s	e	e	d	s	a	u	s	b	t
q	y	a	v	s	i	a	q	h	c
n	c	o	u	j	e	f	q	h	r
n	d	r	e	y	z	o	b	l	h
r	e	z	d	r	a	t	s	u	m

mustard
seed
pearl
yeast
treasure
fishing
net

Prayer

Dear God, help us see that like the mustard seed and the yeast, the smallest actions can have huge results. Inspire us to play our part in making the world a fairer place for everyone. Amen