

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 9/6/20

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 13

LESSON: Kingdom Parables



INTRO

Parents say to your kid(s) - Last week, we celebrated Promotion Sunday! How fun was that?! This week, we're going to learn about what Jesus says about His Kingdom through really cool stories called Parables.

Starting Small - *Supplies: Empty plastic bottle, distilled white vinegar, baking soda, balloon*

- Fill the plastic bottle with about an inch of vinegar.
- Fill the balloon with about a teaspoon of baking soda.
- Carefully place the end of the balloon over the mouth of the water bottle without spilling the baking soda inside.
- When you're ready, pour the baking soda from the balloon into the water bottle.
- Watch the reaction fill up the balloon!

Say - We mixed together just a few small ingredients together and they filled up our balloon! Today we are going to see Jesus talked about His kingdom this way.



LESSON - KINGDOM PARABLES

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [Kingdom Parables](#)

Story Point #1: (Kids repeat!)

The kingdom of God is growing. (Kids repeat!)

What is the kingdom of God? It's everywhere that people follow Jesus as King! Jesus wants the kingdom of God to be in our hearts and over our entire lives, our families, our school, etc. The kingdom of God was really small when Jesus started it, but it is growing all over the world just like the mustard seed in the parable. We're called to spread the good news of Jesus everywhere as we wait for Him to bring His kingdom once and for all.

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

The kingdom of God is valuable. (Kids repeat!)

It is more valuable than anything else! Sometimes letting Jesus be King of your heart and your life means that you live differently than other people do. Other people might not understand why you live this way, just like the people Jesus was talking to did not understand why the farmer or the jeweler in the parable sold all of their possessions to buy something that seemed less valuable. The value of the kingdom of God doesn't always make sense to other people, but Jesus promises that it is more valuable than anything else. There is no greater gift and treasure than the Kingdom of God.

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

Jesus is the King of God's kingdom! (kids repeat)

We are able to enter God's Kingdom because of Jesus and His sacrifice to save us from the curse of sin. At the time, His life looked small. He was poor and died young. But He actually lived the biggest life in all of human history!

King Jesus is the treasure we live our lives for. Sometimes we will have to make sacrifices in order to serve King Jesus and glorify Him in our lives. Those are always tough decisions. But Jesus is always worth it! No sacrifice we make will ever add up to the huge sacrifices Jesus made to rescue us. The kingdom of God is a far better gift than we can ever get on our own.



RESPONSE

Sing: [Colossians 1:13-14](#) (Key Passage Song)
[Healed By His Wounds](#)

Pray: Dear Lord, thank you Jesus and for everything you bless us with. Thank you for being a loving God that cares for us and wants to share your kingdom with. I pray we can be bold enough to always choose what glorifies you and that we can lead more people to know You and Your kingdom. We need You and we love You. Amen.

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- *Why did Jesus teach in parables?* Lead kids to recall that parables reveal hidden truths about God's kingdom that not everyone will understand. Point out how the religious leaders did not accept Jesus as Messiah. They did not recognize that God's kingdom had come perhaps because it was unlike they expected. When we understand the truth about God's kingdom, we joyfully accept it and are blessed. (Choose a volunteer to read Matt. 13:35.)
- *What role can you play in growing God's kingdom?* Encourage kids to consider ways they can share the gospel with others. Remind them of the mustard seed from Jesus' parable, emphasizing that even seemingly small things, such as inviting a friend to church or praying for a neighbor, can have a big impact in God's kingdom. (Choose a volunteer to read Isa. 55:11.)
- *Do you treat God's kingdom as the most valuable thing in your life?* Think of the characters from Jesus' parables and how they gave up a lot in order to get something that meant a lot to them. Then ask them if they are willing to treat God's kingdom and mission for us as the most valuable thing in their life.
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
- *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out.*
- *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com.*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - [Printable Coloring Sheet](#)

Parent Share - In your own words, why is God's Kingdom so good?

Home Bowling Alley - *Supplies: ten empty cans or bottles, a ball*

Use empty cans or bottles to create your own bowling pins. Take some time to decorate them to look like bowling pins or just to look cool. And then line them up in a triangle, stand ten feet away, and enjoy some fun times bowling together in the living room or the yard!