

## Youth Lesson – July 12, 2020

Focus Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Purpose: To reflect on how we are growing in God's way.



### **An Awesome Adventure: "SEEKERS AFTER JESUS"**

**Clue #1: Where We Find God**

**Clue #2: How Does God Work in Our World**

**Clue #3: Joining God in Creating Shalom**

**Clue #4: Give and You Will Receive**

**Clue #5: Take My Yoke Upon You**

**Clue #6: God's Spirit Grows in Me**

### **Preparation**

Worship Table – green cloth      Small pot/trowel/water/soil/seeds

***Lighting the Christ Candle: "We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us."***

### **Prayer**

Dear God,

We are searchers, looking for clues about you and your love.

Guide us in the adventure of following you and sharing your love.

Amen.

### **Song: In the Bulb There Is a Flower**

#### **Verse 1**

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;

In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

#### **Verse 2**

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;

There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

#### **Verse 3**

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;

In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

## Introducing the Theme: Planting a Seed



Take your pot, soil and seeds and plant the seeds in the soil. Explain to the child (ren) that our story today is about the “Parable of the Sower” Talk to the child(ren) about what happens to seeds as they germinate. Let the kind of seed they have be a mystery. Tell them they will have to be detectives and look for clues, as the plant grows, to determine what it is.

## Exploring the Theme – Bible Story

Each Sunday we have been reading a story from the Book of Matthew. Who can tell me who Matthew was? (a tax collector who became one of Jesus’ disciples.) Our story today is a parable that Jesus told, called the “Parable of the Sower.” “Sowing” means to plant seeds. Parables were stories that Jesus told that were like “clues.” If we listen well to Jesus’ parables, we get clues about God’s love and how God wants us to be.

### **Read Matthew 13:3-9**

**Then he told them many things in parables saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was sprinkling his seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It popped up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were dried out, and they shrunk because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and blocked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears let them hear.”**

## Growing in God’s Way

I wonder what kind of soil - what kind of things help us grow in God’s way. (taking a walk and enjoying God’s creation, coming to worship God, praying, listening to Bible stories, sharing our gifts and talents, etc.) Affirm them for listening to Jesus’ parable, which is helping them grow in God’s way.

## Activity or Craft – Origami Flower

**Materials:** A piece of coloured paper cut into a square.



Go to YouTube – Origami Easy-Origami Flower Tutorial for instructions

### **Closing Prayer**

Leader: Go into the world to plant seeds of kindness and love.

**All: We go to serve our God!**

Leader: Go into the world to nurture all aspects of God's creation, caring for them, and helping them to grow in love.

**All: We go to serve our God!**

Leader: Go into the world to blossom and grow the way God wants.

**All: We go to serve our God! Amen.**

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