

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

CHARACTERS: 6

COSTUMES: none specified

PROPS: Bibles

SETTING: none specified

RUN TIME: 4 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Matthew 13, Luke 13 and Mark 4

Note: Bookworm puppet can be made out of an old legwarmer or opaque tights. Puppet should have eyes and mouth and extend to the puppeteer's elbow.

BOOKWORM: Brian, please read in Matthew 13, starting at verse 31. Then Mindy add from Mark 4 and Luke 13. Please wind up with Luke 13:33.

BRIAN: *(reading)* What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?

MINDY: *(reading)* It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground.

BRIAN: Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants

MINDY: It has such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade.

BRIAN: With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them

MINDY: When he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

BRIAN: Jesus told another parable.

MINDY: The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour

BRIAN: until it worked all through the dough.

MINDY: What is yeast?

BOOKWORM: A fungi so small you need a microscope to see it.

BRIAN: That's very small. What does it do?

BOOKWORM: Bakers use yeast to expand, or raise, dough.

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BRIAN: Is that way we get fluffy bread instead of flatbread?

BOOKWORM: Exactly.

MINDY: But you only have to put a small amount in for a big batch of bread?

BOOKWORM: Right. Now thinking about what you know about the kingdom of God, how is it like yeast?

BRIAN: I think it is like yeast because Jesus started with just 12 disciples and the kingdom of God grew from there.

MINDY: Like when Peter preached on Pentecost and three thousand people were baptized.

BOOKWORM: Right. Good text to text connection, Mindy.

BRIAN: I know a good text to world connection.

BOOKWORM: Tell us.

BRIAN: It is like when a church sends and supports a missionary to a place that hasn't heard about Jesus.

BOOKWORM: You are on the right track.

BRIAN: And because of that one missionary or missionary family many people become Christians.

BOOKWORM: Fabulous.

MINDY: I have a text to self connection.

BOOKWORM: Go ahead.

MINDY: It is like at school. I am the only Christian on my soccer team. But even if I am the only one, I can invite people to come to church with me.

BOOKWORM: Great job.

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Getting Sick version

CHARACTERS: 3

COSTUMES: none specified

PROPS: Bibles

SETTING: none specified

RUN TIME: 3 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Matthew 13

BRIAN: Mom, you know how yesterday I told you Timmy and Ling Su weren't at school because they have the chicken pox?

MOM: Yes.

BRIAN: Today Timmy's brothers and sisters all missed school with the chicken pox and so did Ling Su's mom.

MOM: She's your PE teacher, right?

BRIAN: Yes.

MINDY: That's not all. I had six kids missing in my class because of chicken pox.

BRIAN: I didn't know chickens could make people so sick.

MOM: Chicken pox isn't about chickens. It's about a germ.

MINDY: You mean one of those teeny tiny organisms that make you sick?

MOM: Yes. A teeny tiny germ can multiply to not only make one person sick, but a whole bunch of people sick.

BRIAN: That is kind of like the parables of the mustard seed and yest.

MOM: Great connection, Brian.

MINDY: Let's read them again.

MOM: OK. Get your Bibles and turn to Matthew 13. Mindy can read first.

MINDY: Jesus told them another parable:

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BRIAN: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

MINDY: Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants

BRIAN: It becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches.

MINDY: The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.

MOM: So what connection can you make between something like a mustard seed, yeast or a germ and God's kingdom?

MINDY: If it only takes one seed for a huge plant, it can take only one Christian to change the world.

BRIAN: Just like chicken pox germs spread chicken pox when people get together, Christians, even if there is only one, should spread the good news about Jesus when they are around people.

MOM: Excellent thinking.

MINDY: I think it means too, that even young people can spread the news about Jesus.

MOM: Right. Let's ask our audience what they think they could do by themselves to tell others about Jesus.

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