

## RE

Our new topic is Called 'The Kingdom of God'.

### The Parable of the Mustard Seed

This week we are beginning to look at the parables that Jesus told his disciples. In Matthew, 13:31-32 we read the parable of the mustard seed. It is a way that Jesus described the Kingdom of God. Here is a video of the gospel <https://vimeo.com/254211353>, or you could read it in the bible.

These are the key elements of the parable:

- The sower is Jesus Himself. He is the planter who came to atone for our sins so that we might become fruitful.
- The mustard seed was the smallest seed known at the time. While it becomes more of a shrub than a tree, it can reach about 10 feet high. The mustard seed represents the Gospel, starting very small but growing to reach millions throughout the world who will inherit the kingdom. The field represents all the people of the earth who will receive Him.
- The tree is rooted in Jesus Christ and has grown a harvest far beyond its initial planting.
- The tree offers a refuge for His faithful to rest in Him.

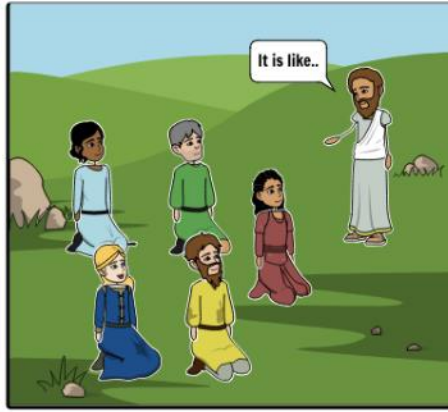
**Task:** What is the Kingdom of God all about? Draw a picture or a comic strip that shows your understanding of the parable and then add some sentences that explain what this parable is teaching us. What does the seed represent? Who are the birds? How and why must we look after the growth of the tree?

Here are some images to help you with your work:

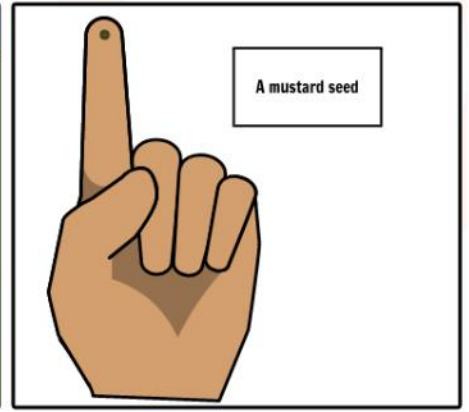




Jesus was talking to his followers, when one of them asked "What is the kingdom of God like?"



Jesus decided to tell them a parable so they could understand better.



Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed..."



"...which a man took and planted in his field..."



"...Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree..."



"...so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

If you want to explore some of the other parables have a look here:

<https://ministry-to-children.com/childrens-bible-lessons-on-the-parables-of-jesus-9-part-series/>