



June 16, 2024, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Mark 4:26-34

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of creation, by the Holy Spirit, make our hearts to be good soil, rich and nourishing, so that when we hear your word, it will grow in us and bear fruit for the sake of all that you have made. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." (Mark 4:30-32)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Things that we think are too small to make a difference can change the course of history. David, the youngest of his family, did just that by helping Saul, and seeds scattered on the ground grow on their own even if we forget about them. Those seeds produce fruit in many ways.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- What does it take for seeds to grow? How much do they depend on human intervention, and how much is by design?
- Sometimes we are not able to fully influence a situation—we can only plant a seed. When is the last time you planted a seed in someone? Did you see it come to fruition?
- For the littles: How do you grow? God is helping you grow along with rest, play, and healthy food!



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May the God of growth help you find good soil for all the seeds you sow. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Find some seeds and plant them. Examine the seed carefully so you can truly appreciate how amazing it is that a plant comes from something so tiny!



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 13:23-14:23; Galatians 6:11-18

Tuesday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:10-23; Revelation 21:22-22:5

Wednesday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:24-31; Luke 6:43-45

Thursday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 16:14-23; Acts 20:1-16

Friday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5; Acts 21:1-16

Saturday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 18:1-4; Luke 21:25-28