



The Parable of the Mustard Seed





I'm too old.



I'm too young.



Not
important



Our church
is too little.







I'm too old.

I'm too young.

Remember the Mustard Seed!

Not
important

Our church
is too little.

Teacher Notes Page 1

1. Cover: The Trial of Jesus

2. Sometimes people think that they are not important to God. They want to do things to help the church but they think that the things they do are not important.

Sometimes they just give up because they feel sad.

3. Some people think they are too old to help the church. "I'm just one old woman," they might say. "There's nothing I can do to help except sew clothes for poor people."

Kids sometimes think they are too young to help the church. "I'm just a little kid. No one expects me to help the church. I can only do little things like come to Sunday School."

Some people think that the things they do are not important so they stop helping the church. "I can only do little things like vacuuming the floor or straightening the song books," they say. "No one will notice if I don't do those little things. Those little things don't help the church anyway."

Sometimes people are sad because they think that their church is too little. They say, "no one will want to come to my church, it is too small."

4. Some of the people who followed Jesus thought those things too. Jesus wanted to teach the people something new. He wanted them to know that everything we do to help others is important. The big things are important and the little things are important. Sometimes we do a little thing and it ends up making a BIG difference.

5. Jesus wanted the people to understand this important lesson so he told them a parable about a seed. Does anyone know what a seed is? (Let the children answer.) A seed is a beginning. A seed is often very small and it looks like it could never be anything important. (Show some seeds.) Seeds look like they are small and not important but seeds are only the beginning of something. A very small seed can grow into something very big. (Tell or show what plants come from the seeds you brought).

The parable Jesus told was about a mustard seed. (Show one if you have it.) He said that once a man planted a very tiny mustard seed in his garden. It was a very little seed but it was only the beginning. As time passed the seed grew into a little plant.

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6. It grew more and more every day. As the years went by the plant became a big tree. Birds would come and sit on the tree's branches.

Jesus said that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. Things might look very small at the beginning but just wait – someday they can be very, very, very big! Just keep doing the little things and God will make them grow.

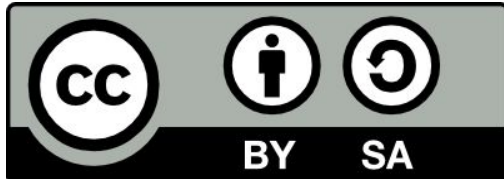
7. So, are the things older people do too small? No, remember the mustard seed!

Are kids too little to help the church? No, remember the mustard seed!

Should we stop doing little jobs like vacuuming and straightening song books? No, remember the mustard seed!

Should we give up because our church is too small? No, remember the mustard seed!

How can you remember the story of the mustard seed?
What can you do to help?



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