

11th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Mark 4:26-34

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord †

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



"Lord, it is good to give thanks to you."



What is God's Kingdom like?



Jesus described the Kingdom of God as being like a mustard seed - the smallest of seeds! - but once planted, it grows into the biggest of shrubs. What do you imagine the Kingdom of God to be like? Write or draw your answers

Teacher Notes 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

Before the Gospel

Jesus uses stories to help us understand God's plan. In this reading he is teaching us about what God's Kingdom is like. He compares the way the God's Kingdom grows to the way a seed grows. Listen to our reading today and see what Jesus teaches us about the way seeds grow.

After the Gospel

There are two parables in our reading today. We will be looking especially at the second parable.

In the second parable Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a tiny seed that grows into a big tree that gives shelter to the birds.

- Why do birds shelter in trees?
- What do you think the Kingdom of God is like?

Craft

Children will make a bird using glue and coloured paper. These bird will be placed on a large tree to create a mural showing how the mustard seed grew into a large tree that provides shelter.





