

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Serve and Follow

from John 12:20-33.



Lent 5

We follow Jesus by helping others.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- God's promise
- Disciples
- Seed
- Serving

Why do you think Jesus talked about seeds? In Jesus' time, farming was a common occupation. Many people farmed to support their families and survive. Today, fewer than 1% of Americans are farmers. That's a big difference!

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 446-447

Spark Bible page 1189

Family Prayer

Dear God, make us seeds of your love. Seeds need sun and rain. We need love and support. Nurture us and help us grow, so that we can serve others and follow Jesus. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 How are we like seeds? How are we different than seeds?
- 2 In this parable, Jesus talked about seeds as an example of something that grows. What other examples could he use about things that grow?
- 3 God made promises to Jesus. God makes promises to us. How do you show someone that you can keep a promise?
- 4 Think about ways you could learn about the needs in your community. Some may be really big. Others may not seem significant. What can you do to serve others in your community in big and small ways?



Eye Spark

The next time you eat a piece of fruit, look for the seeds. Remember how Jesus believed you could grow to serve others.



Ear Spark

In verses 28-29 of this story, God spoke to Jesus in a voice "loud as thunder." The next time you hear a thunderstorm, think about how it must have felt to stand in the crowd with Jesus.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

On your next grocery trip, see how many types of seeds you can find. Buy a few new kinds and have a seed sampling for your next snack or meal. Try pumpkin, sesame, sunflower, or poppy.

For younger kids

There are lots of ways you can show you care about others. Make a card for someone who is sick or homebound in your congregation. You can ask your pastor for the name and address of potential recipients.

For older kids

Do you know how *other* churches in your community serve others? Talk to friends, neighbors, and pastors who belong to other churches and ask about how they serve the community. Seeing other people serve others can be motivating and inspiring for you. And who knows, you might even get some ideas for your church!