

Mark Chapter 4 — Jesus teaches with parables

In Chapter 4 of Mark's Gospel, Jesus teaches people by telling stories called parables. One story is about a farmer who scatters seeds on the ground. Some seeds fall on a hard path, some on rocky ground, some among weeds, and some on good soil. The seeds grow differently depending on where they land. Jesus explains that God's word is like the seeds, and our hearts are like the soil. When we listen to God and put Jesus' teachings into practice, our faith can grow. Jesus also tells his disciples that God's Kingdom is like a tiny mustard seed that grows into a big plant. Later, Jesus and his disciples get into a boat, and a terrible storm begins. The disciples are afraid, but Jesus calms the wind and the waves. They begin to understand that they can trust Jesus, even when they are scared.

Talk about these questions together as a family. Take turns sharing your thoughts, listen to one another, and discover how Jesus' teachings can help your family grow in faith and show God's love in everyday life.

1. Jesus tells a story about seeds growing. What can our family do to help our faith in God grow?

2. How can we show Jesus that we are listening to him?

3. A tiny mustard seed grows into a big plant. What is one small act of kindness that can make a big difference to someone?

4. The disciples were afraid during the storm. What helps you feel safe when you are scared or worried?

5. How can our family remind one another to trust Jesus when life feels difficult?