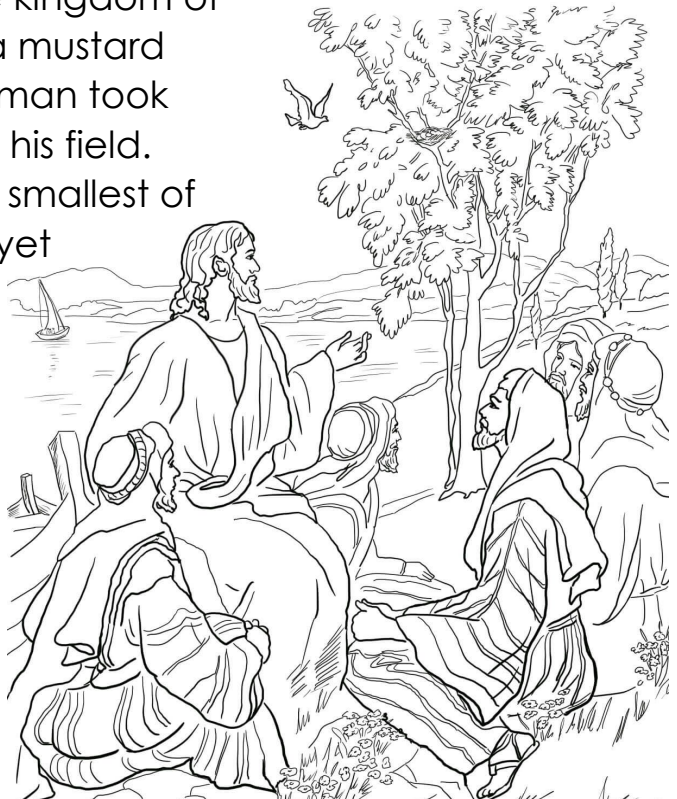


December 31, 2023

Today's Reading:
Luke 13:1-35

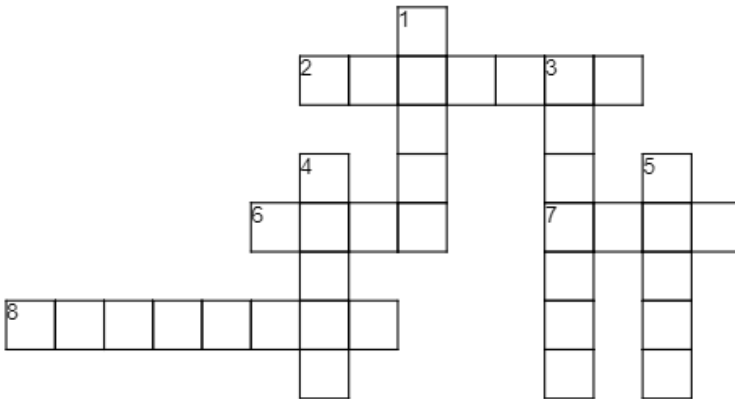
Today, at church I learned:

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."





Just like a mustard seed is small, it grows into something big! We are never too small to be important in God's eyes. We can help to grow the kingdom of God. Jesus started with only twelve disciples, a very small group of people. Now people across the entire world follow Him!! God can use even the smallest of us to grow His kingdom and change the world around us.



ACROSS

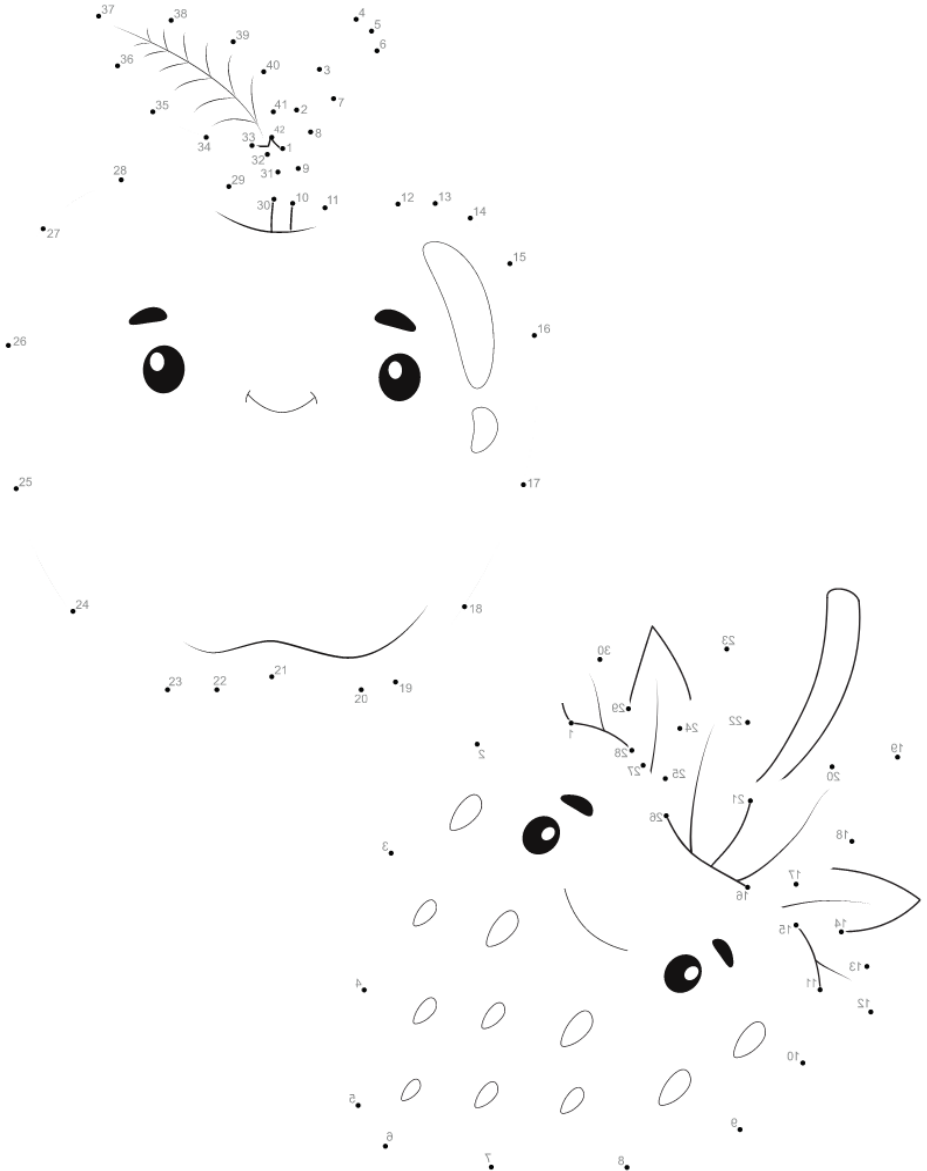
2. A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
6. A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
7. To become larger; to increase in size or amount
8. Not as big as any of the others

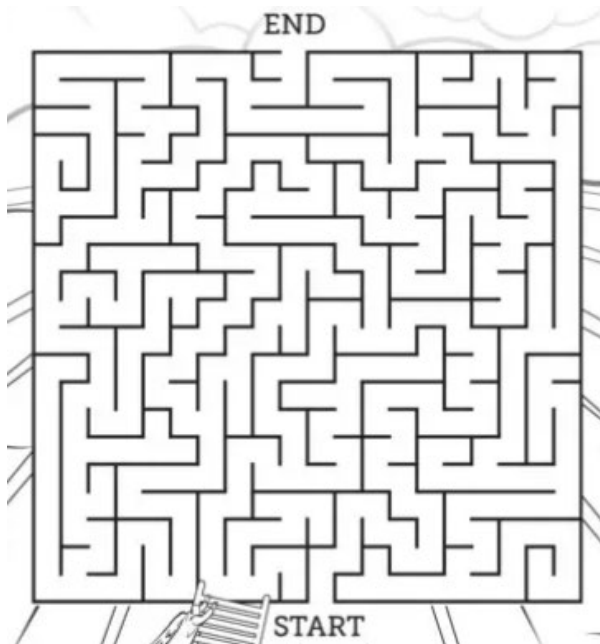
DOWN

1. A food made from dough of flour or meal
3. Bigger than any of the others
4. A member of the fungus family used in baking to help make the dough rise
5. A mixture of flour, water, and other ingredients to make bread

LARGEST	YEAST	DOUGH	BREAD
SMALLEST	SEED	PARABLE	GROW

Jesus also told a story about a fruit tree that would not produce any fruit. The man who planted the tree was frustrated and wanted to cut the tree down because it was not producing fruit. We are like that tree. God “planted” us here on Earth and wants us to produce good fruit in our lives. Fruit like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.





There is only one way into God's kingdom – heaven. That way is Jesus. He tells us to make every effort to get into heaven. Anyone can get into heaven. We must ask for forgiveness, believe in and trust in Him.

H I I E J Y K N D V F T F Q O
 P L E A D I N G F R S O B Y W
 X B N V Q S T A N D A E U M N
 C N D E T Q D E Y Q S N I K E
 D L A I D F F M J P F D K E R
 O T O H Q R O H A T Y X G Y Z
 O D Z S E P M M H N P Y E I H
 R H Z W E R L G R P Y U K K D
 R O S J O D U J B L Z L N F C
 T N U Z D A N A R R O W O B D
 A E L T T E P M T O V T C A R
 E E N S S W X H O U S E K C Y
 Q I A T Z I C S T D Q P I D A
 A L S T E I D J Y X A T N Q O
 V C N M E R V E I P Y F G Q E

TAUGHT
 CLOSED
 NARROW

STAND
 HOUSE
 ANSWER

DOOR
 ENTER
 PLEADING

DRANK
 ATE
 OUTSIDE

KNOCKING
 OWNER
 MANY