

OCTOBER 4, 2020



Children's Message

REJECTION • LECTIONARY 27

SEASON AFTER PENTECOST • YEAR A

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 📖 • Isaiah 5:1-7 📖 • Psalm 19 📖 • Psalm 80:7-15 📖

Philippians 3:4b-14 • **Matthew 21:33-46**

Select one of these options to create a children's message to fit kids' interests and gifts and your congregation's size and sanctuary features. You can finish your time together with the prayer.

READ THE STORY

Place a bookmark on page 246 in the Whirl Story Bible. Read the story. What are parables? Listen to kids' responses, and let them know they are stories that teach us something about God and ourselves. Why did Jesus tell them? Can you think of other parables Jesus told? Wonder what kind of parables Jesus would tell today.

WONDER ABOUT THE STORY

Ask all kinds of questions. Why do you think Jesus told this parable? What can we learn from it about God and ourselves? Is there another way to tell the story that would teach the same things?

SEE THE STORY

Look at pictures of vineyards. Talk about all of the things that come from grapes, such as jelly, wine, and juice. Smell or taste these foods and drinks. Think about how modern-day vineyards that grew the grapes to make these yummy foods might be different from and the same as vineyards in Jesus' time.

SEE THE SEASON

Are there any grapes in the symbols in your worship space? Look at paraments, stoles, windows, banners, and carvings. What about in the bulletin? Grapes growing and the grain that makes the bread can help us think about growing in faith. Jesus used these words to describe himself when he said, "I am the vine" and "I am the bread of life."

ENTER THE OLD TESTAMENT STORIES

If you're reading Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 today . . . Look around the sanctuary and compare sizes of things, such as the organ or piano, altar, cross, lectern, pulpit, and other structures. Is God bigger than these things? The Ten Commandments begin with God reminding us that God is the one who creates, saves, and sustains us. Nothing is bigger than that!

If you're reading Isaiah 5:1-7 today . . . Show a picture of a vineyard. Vineyard owners work the soil, watch the weather, pick all the grapes when they are ready to be picked, maintain equipment, manage the harvest, and plan for next year's crop. It's a big job, and God is a big God!

WONDER ABOUT THE SEASON

What is the long season of Pentecost about? God is working in, through, and among us. We celebrate this season with stories from the Bible, stories from our lives, and the color green. How does God work through you? How are we God's hands in the world?

PRAYER

Give thanks for fruits that grow and the farmers and workers who grow and harvest them.

