

Lesson 5 - God Made Seeds

Aim

To understand that flowers and plants come from tiny seeds and God made them

Materials

1. Garden catalogue, potted plant, watering can, packets of seeds, flower pots, small trowels / forks.
2. Grow Seeds Grow, from The Toddlers Bedtime Story Book, by V. Gilbert Beers
3. The Tiny Seed, by Eric Carle (Scholastic Books)
4. Large picture from story with the words, "God made Seeds" to give to the children.
5. Cress seeds or some flower seeds (e.g. candytuft, pansies, marigolds or nasturtiums)
6. A small container (flower pot, ice cream box, egg box or yoghurt pot) and soil

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction
 2. Story & Discussion
 3. Activities - growing game, plant seeds,
 4. Review the lesson
 5. Prayer
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1) Introduction

Show the gardening objects. Ask what you would use them for and talk about gardens - Who's got one? Who's been to a local park? Does anyone have plants indoors at home, or in a window box on a window sill? Many people like to grow flowers. What kind of flowers do the children like? Show pictures of well-known flowers. Today's story is about how a tiny seed becomes a beautiful flower.

2) Story and Discussion

- * Read the story.
- * Discuss all the things which helped the seeds to grow - sunshine, rain, soil, helpers to plant them, time. But the seeds were created in the first place by God, who also made the sun, rain and soil

3) Activities

- * Play The Growing Game
- * Plant seeds - Plant cress or give each child a flower pot, egg box or yoghurt pot with a drainage hole in the bottom. Have ready soil or potting compost or a mixture of both, and let the children fill their containers. - they'll make a mess but will love it! Make sure nobody eats it, and moisten the mixture before planting the flower seeds to take home (Something like candytuft, pansies, marigolds or nasturtiums would be suitable). Remind them to water the seeds regularly, and tell parents the seedlings may have to be transplanted to a bigger pot later.
- * Collect polystyrene trays and provide each child with one. Put blotting paper, cotton wool or a layer of kitchen towel or paper tissue in the bottom of each tray, dampen well and add cress or mustard seeds. Let children take them home and remind them to keep them watered.

4) Review the aims of the lesson

To understand that flowers and plants come from tiny seeds and God made them

5) Prayer

Say a prayer of thanks to God for giving so many beautiful flowers and plants, and the seeds that make them. Name some well-known flowers.

Grow Seeds Grow

by V. Gilbert Beers



- 1) . “Let's plant some flower seeds,” said Daddy. He took a spade and rake to the garden. He took some flower seeds too.
- 2) Daddy dug the ground. He moved the rake back and forth. Soon the soil was soft.
- 3) “Now I need some helpers,” said Daddy. So Joshua and Jerry helped Daddy put seeds in the soil.
4. “Now they will grow to be beautiful flowers,” said Daddy.
- 5) Joshua and Jerry sat down by the soil. They looked at the soil.
- 6) “What are you doing? Daddy asked. “Watching flowers grow,” said Joshua. “Now,” said Jerry.
- 7) Daddy smiled. “We can't see them grow today,” he said. “First the sun must smile at the seeds. A few drops of rain will help too.”
- 8) “The seeds will feel the sun and rain,” said Daddy. “Little green plants will come from the seeds. The flowers will grow on the plants. But we must wait.”
- 9) “We will come here each day,” said Daddy. “One day you will see the green plants. Later you will see the flowers.”
- 10). Each day Joshua and Jerry watched the plants grow. One day they saw beautiful flowers. They took some to Mummy. “I'm glad we waited,” they said. “So am I,” said Mummy. “Thank you!”

Questions

- What is Daddy planting?
- Who is helping him?
- What will help the seeds grow?
- What grew from the seeds?
- Who helps seeds grow?
- Have you thanked God for doing this?

The Growing Game

(Bible Learning Games - Ages 4 & 5)



This action story teaches that God made the flowers and the sun, and He cares for us.

BIBLE VERSE

“God will provide.” - Genesis 22:8 (Also - Genesis 1:1 - 2:10; Matthew 6:25 - 34)

PREPARATION

If possible, invite another adult to help with this game. Cut a sun from yellow construction paper. Duplicate the flower pattern and cut several flowers from brightly coloured construction paper, one for each child.

HOW TO PLAY

1. It is best to have two adults for this game - one to hold the sun, and one to do the actions with the children. If that is not possible, show an older child how to hold the sun and move it back and forth.

2. Have the children squat down and curl up tightly, pretending to be tiny seeds. Then begin the story.

Little seeds, I will plant you in the ground.

(Pat each child on the head, as though you are planting. As you pat them, children may lower their heads.)

It is cool and dark in the ground. But the sun makes the ground all warm.

(Hold up the sun.)

Pretty soon you are little plants beginning to pop out of the ground.

(The plants lift their heads, but still squat.)

The sun shines down on you, and you begin to grow and grow.

(The plants slowly stand up)

Soon flowers begin to grow on you.

(Give each child a flower to hold.)

Every day when the sun shines, your flowers turn their heads towards the sun.

(Move the sun across the room, getting higher and higher.

The flowers follow the sun, stretching up as high as possible.)

But in the evening, the sun goes.

(The sun sinks down, the children bring their flowers back to the original position)

Soon it gets very dark.

(Remove the sun.)

The little plants sleep and rest.

(Droop flowers)

The next morning, there is the sun! Wake up little flowers! Wake up!

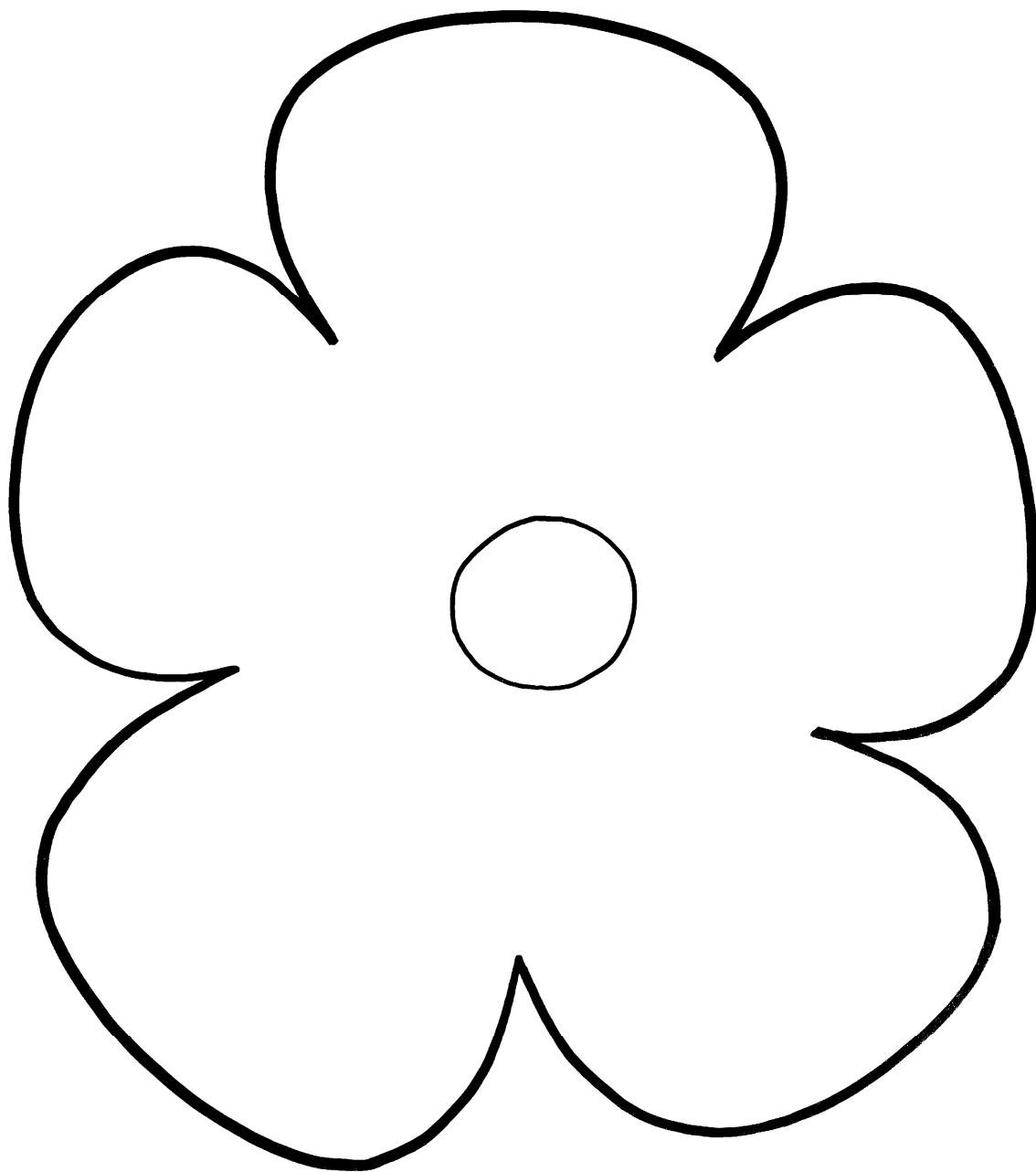
(Hold up the sun, the flowers perk up. Move the sun again, repeating the actions, as long as the children are enjoying the game)

3. After the game, when children are seated, talk about how important the sun is. Ask, *“What do you think would happen if the sun didn't shine for many many days? The flowers would fade and shrivel up. They might even die. Plants must have sunshine to live and grow.”*

TO TALK ABOUT

Sometimes we have cloudy days. but soon the sun will peek through the clouds again. Do you know why? Because God made the sun, and He will always keep it shining. He made the flowers, too, and He will take care of them. Best of all, He made YOU, and He will always take care of you.

(The Growing Game)



God Made Seeds

