THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S SURPRISE PACKAGE

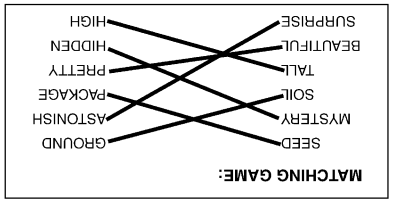
(Near the Sea of Galilee) — Jesus was teaching big crowds about God's kingdom. He said God's kingdom is like the mystery hidden in a surprise package. The farmer takes the package (called a seed) and hides it under his soil. The little package does not look like anything special. In fact, when it is buried under the soil it looks as though that will be the end of it.

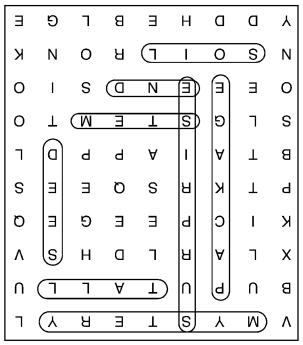
But then comes the surprise! The package begins to change! Pretty soon it starts to grow. A green stem comes up out of the ground. Then branches and leaves appear. Pretty soon it is tall and beautiful.

What a mystery! How can a little package like that turn into a beautiful green plant? Jesus said God's kingdom is like that. All of us are God's surprise packages. God can change us in surprising ways.

Mark 4:26-34

B43





ANSWERS

Copyright © CSS Publishing Company, Lima, Ohio

GOSPEL GRAMS

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Make A Picture Story. Today's Gospel story is about a seed that turns into a beautiful tall plant. You can draw this story in four pictures. Use the spaces below. Read the sentence below each square. Then draw the picture to match the sentence.

1. THE SEED IS PLANTED.

2. THE STEM STARTS COMING UP.

3. THE PLANT HAS SOME LEAVES.

4. THE PLANT IS TALL AND STRONG.

Word Search. Here is a puzzle about the growing plant Jesus talked about. Circle all the hidden words listed below. Some are printed across and some are printed down.

LOOK FOR THESE WORDS:

MYSTERY	SEED	STEM	PACKAGE
SOIL	END	LITTLE	
SURPRISE	LOOK	TALL	

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

Matching Game. The words on the left side have a word on the right side that matches it. Draw a line from the word on the left to the matching word on the right.

SEED	GROUND
MYSTERY	ASTONISH
SOIL	PACKAGE
TALL	PRETTY
BEAUTIFUL	HIDDEN
SURPRISE	HIGH