



## The Growing Seed

**Call to Prayer:** The growth and transformation of the tiny seed is a difficult for us to see, as it lays hidden in the ground. Yet we know that God is at work, that His power and strength dwells within the seed. As we begin our meeting tonight, let us pause to recall the Parable of the Growing Seed, and thank the Lord for all the ways that He is present to us in the work of our association, in our work as catechists, and in the life of the child.

**Word of God:** Mark 4:26-29

*Jesus said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain – first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."*

**Response:**

Leader: The Lord dwells with the man who scatters the seed...

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - As he sleeps and rises,           | The Lord dwells there.        |
| - Both night and day,               | The Lord dwells there.        |
| - When he harvests the crop,        | The Lord dwells there.        |
| - In all his work,                  | The Lord dwells there.        |
| - As he trusts in the power of God, | The Lord dwells in his heart. |

Leader: The Lord dwells in the small and hidden...

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| - In the seed, concealed in the soil, | The Lord dwells there. |
| - Buried in the fertile darkness,     | The Lord dwells there. |
| - In its change and transformation,   | The Lord dwells there. |
| - As it sprouts and grows,            | The Lord dwells there. |
| - When the blade appears,             | The Lord dwells there. |
| - then the ear,                       | The Lord dwells there. |
| - then the full grain in the ear,     | The Lord dwells there. |
| - When it is ready to harvest,        | The Lord dwells there. |

**Closing Prayer:**

The Lord's strength and power dwells inside the seed, and in every aspect of growth and transformation. We are grateful for the opportunity to joyfully serve child, as we patiently wait in hope for the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Let us pray,

Lord of All that is Quiet and Still,

The beginning of Your Kingdom is small and hidden from sight.

Allow us glimpses of the Kingdom in our work with the child,

so that we may have the ability to see, to follow and to observe

the growth and transformation that occurs in the child and in our own hearts.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

