

# Hard Math

Family & Children's Devotion | Luke 17:1–10

This week's story: Jesus and the tiny seed (Luke 17:5–6)

Family reading suggestion: Read Luke 17:5–6 together, or paraphrase — “Jesus’ friends asked him for more faith. Jesus told them even faith as small as a tiny seed is enough to do amazing things.”

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## Ages 4–6

### Talk about it:

Hold something very small — a seed, a bead, a button. Look at it together. “This is so small! Do you think something small can still be important?”

### Try this:

Plant a seed together (mustard, if you have it, or any seed you have at home). Talk about how something so tiny grows into something big.

### Prayer

*“Thank you God for using small things — even me — to do big things. Amen.”*

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## Ages 7–11

### Talk about it:

Jesus’ friends wanted BIG faith. Jesus said even TINY faith — like a seed — was enough. Have you ever felt like you weren’t “enough” at something — brave enough, good enough, big enough? What do you think Jesus would say to you about that?

### Try this:

Draw a picture of something tiny that grew into something big (a seed into a tree, an acorn, a baby animal into an adult one). Write one word on your picture that describes something “small” about you that you think matters anyway.

### Prayer

*“God, I don’t have to be the biggest or the best. Thank you for using me just as I am. Amen.”*

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## Teens

### Talk about it:

This week’s passage also talks about forgiving someone “seven times in a day” — which is a lot. Jesus also warned pretty seriously about not hurting people who are vulnerable. How do you hold both of those at once — forgiving people, and also protecting yourself or others from being hurt again?

### Journal prompt:

Think of a time you had to decide whether to forgive someone, stay in a hard situation, or set a boundary. What did you decide, and how did it feel afterward? Was there a difference between “forgiving” and “trusting them again”?

### **Prayer**

*“God, give me wisdom to know when to forgive, when to protect myself, and how to do both without guilt. Amen.”*

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## **Whole Family Discussion**

- What’s something small in our family — a small habit, a small kindness — that actually makes a big difference?
- Is there anyone we, as a family, need to forgive this week? What would that look like — and does it mean things go back to exactly how they were, or something different?
- What’s one “small seed” of faith we can plant together this week — a small act of kindness, patience, or trust?

### **Family Closing Prayer**

*“God, thank you for small things that grow into big things — including our faith. Help us forgive each other, take care of each other, and trust that even a little bit of faith in you is enough. Amen.”*

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*First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) · Highland, Indiana  
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