

CheeseFare Thursday,

Thursday@7 for March 3, 2022

Sowing Seeds for Christ

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SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,
²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard



seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Read the Scripture Passage above with your family and then discuss the following questions to apply its message to your daily lives:

1. What positives can be achieved from planting spiritual seeds based on Christ's teachings?

2. Placing seeds in the ground is affected by the environment, temperature and season. Share thoughts on how Great Lent can be an effective "seed time" to succeed in growing closer to God.
3. What specific parts of Great Lent can you and your family focus on to ensure the "sprouting" of spiritual seeds along your daily paths? What reminders will your family need to succeed?
4. What actions in your response to Great Lent result in your spiritual seeds remaining buried in the ground and dying?
5. Read Isaiah 60:21, 61:3. How does Great Lent ensure new and renewed life springs forth from what we plant during this time?
6. Our lenten journey calls us to repentance and to seek the forgiveness of God and others against whom we have sinned. Commit with your family your resolve to water the Spirit of God within each of us by participating in the following: *corporate and private prayer, reading Holy Scripture, fasting, offering charity and service to the needy, receiving God's healing and life giving Sacraments of Confession, Communion, Holy Unction, and fellowship with the Body of Christ.* **Remember, as we put God's Word into practice, the Holy Spirit grows within us.**



FOR FURTHER REFLECTION



As Orthodox Christians, we are instruments of God helping each other cultivate our spiritual gardens and watching new and renewed life appear. During Great Lent, let us discern the best ways to "seed" the Lord's Gospel in our hearts and those of our family and friends. Indeed, the true gardener is the Holy Spirit within us. Let us seek His will and live accordingly. Blessed Lent!

