

Lessons From the Garden

The garden is a place to learn many wonderful lessons about God and His love. Here are a few to get you started. As your children work on the garden, look for opportunities to share these object lessons with them.

Soil Preparation

As the children are preparing their soil for their plants, point them to the garden of their hearts. The soil must be prepared and ready to receive God's truth found in His Word.

As the kids work hard in the garden, they can be reminded of the hard work and diligence required to develop their character and grow in Christ.



Reminders of the Resurrection

As your child plants a seed tell him that Jesus went into the tomb just as this little seed goes into the ground. Then, as you watch life emerge and spring forth, you can remind your little one that just as the sprout springs forth from the ground in life, so Jesus rose from the tomb.

The Sprout

There is nothing like the excitement in a child's eyes as she watches new life emerge from her little seed. At first there is a little sprout, then the first leaves, and growth continues. Excitement accompanies each stage. Just as your children are eager to see new growth in their plants, God is excited to see new growth in our lives.

Stages

The growth stages of a tiny plant can be compared to the growth of our hearts. First the soil must be prepared and made ready to receive the seed of truth. In germination (the sprout that springs forth), we see the beginning of our spiritual life, the choice to Grow in Christ. Just as a plant develops, so does our character as we develop in Christ.

Weeding

What happens if we let weeds grow in our gardens? The weeds will take the nutrients needed by your vegetables, and your vegetables will be made weak. If the weeds are allowed to grow long enough, your plants will eventually die. This is true of our Spiritual lives as well. Take a few minutes with your children (maybe while you're pulling weeds) to answer the question, "What are some weeds we may have in our lives?"

The Parable of the Sower

After you've been working on your garden for a little bit, and your children understand how growing plants work, you may want to re-read the parable of the sower. It will have new meaning for your kids. This parable can be found in Matthew 13:1-29.

Ask Your Kids

As your kids work in the garden, don't forget to ask them what they have learned about God and His creation. I'm sure they will have lots to say.

