

Chapter 12

Signs of the Kingdom

When you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near.

Luke 21:31

For the Parents:

In chapter 12 your child learned to:

- Articulate his or her understanding of the kingdom of God
- Give examples of how the kingdom grows
- Identify some people who labor for the harvest
- Describe his or her role in God's harvest

The kingdom of God may be likened to a catechist who sowed seeds of justice, peace, and love in the classroom. Preparing the soil by telling stories and giving examples, the catechist prayerfully watered the seed with patience and understanding, laughter and listening, caring and creativity.

The children received the seeds. Some pushed the seeds deep into their hearts. Some left them lying close to the surface, turning them over and over, examining them and trying to figure out how they worked. Some kept them on the tips of their tongues, and spoke about them to others. Some put them right into practice. Some admired their beauty and potential, and expressed in art and music their dreams of fruitfulness.

With Your Child:

1. Tell your family the folktale about the two brothers from the city. Talk about the idea that we often see only the beginning of God's work. Together, identify things that are mysteries in your lives today. Say a prayer of trust, putting all of these things in God's hands.
2. Read about Saint Isidore of Madrid on the Review and Explore page.