

# ROOTS YOUNG PEOPLE

Go to [www.rootsontheweb.com](http://www.rootsontheweb.com) for all templates, links and images. Find Bible notes and more prayers on p.18. Use the BIBLE section below first, then choose activities from the other sections. Extra ideas can be found in *Explore & respond* opposite.

## BIBLE Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

### Warm up 5 mins E

Gather the young people together to play a simple quick-fire game. Choose one person to draw and ask everyone to guess – alternatively, play as teams against each other. Use the five symbols of the kingdom (mustard seed, yeast, treasure, pearl and fishing net) for someone to draw and the others to guess.

### Which one is for you? 10 mins WE

Print off copies of **Matthew 13.31-33,44-52** for each young person or ask them to look up the passage individually in Bibles or on their phones. Ask everyone to read the passage to themselves and then to silently reflect on which of the five images is most like what they think about the kingdom of God. Share together once everyone has finished reading.

#### Questions to discuss

- Why do you think that Jesus uses so many images to describe the kingdom?
- How would you describe God's kingdom?
- Is there a story in the news or from your community which is like the kingdom of God described in today's passage? E.g. A school welcoming refugee families?

## CONNECT

### The sacrifice needed 10 mins WE

Provide electronic devices for the young people to look at stories of 'heroes' of faith online or print copies for them (see link on [WEB](#)). Ask the group to research one 'hero' and what they had to sacrifice. Remind them that in the passage, people had to sell everything they had to receive the kingdom richness. Ask: what might you need to give up in order to discover more about God's kingdom?

### Shiny people 5 mins ESA

Play the young people the song 'Pretty shiny people' by George Ezra (link on [WEB](#)). Ask them to look again at the passage and to think about the people in their communities who probably don't feel that the kingdom of God is open to them. Think of an organisation or group of people you could invite to an event coming up in your church.

[WEB](#) PostScript: Linking this week's reading to the news [Globe](#)

## Listen

[WEB](#) See *Young People* page or *Hymns, songs & music* for links to these tracks.

Greatness of our God, Newsboys on *United*

Waymaker, Michael W. Smith on *Awaken: the surrounded experience*

Cannons, Phil Wickham on *Cannons*

## EXPLORE

### Mosaic kingdom 10 mins ES

Give the young people a selection of colourful magazines, glue and plain paper. Individually or as a group, ask everyone to tear small pieces of paper from the magazines and stick them on their paper to form a mosaic picture of the kingdom of God.

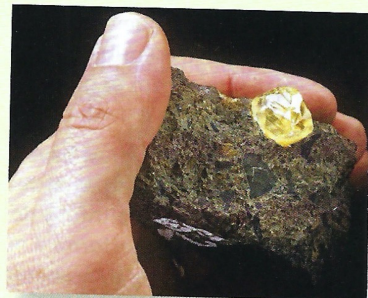
### Secret treasure 10 mins E

Hide some wrapped sweets around your space and ask the group to divide themselves into teams/pairs to take part in a treasure hunt. Once the sweets have all been found, tell the young people that there is one final 'treasure' that contains 10 more sweets, but the teams will need to give up the sweets they already have to search for it. Which teams are willing to risk the challenge? Ask the teams who wish to play to find the 'treasure' – the word 'Kingdom' hidden in a small box, along with 10 extra sweets. Encourage the winning team to share the sweets with everyone!

### Picture pointers [WEB](#)

Questions for reflection [Globe](#)

- ▶ What secrets are within this image?
- ▶ What hidden gems do you see in your daily living?
- ▶ How might we make the kingdom of heaven more visible?



## PRAY

### Fishing net 5 mins ES

Show the young people a fishing net and then give them each a paper fish shape and a piece of plastic rubbish; explain that our seas are full of both. Encourage the young people to put their fish in the net as they think about one person who they want to know about God's kingdom. Then ask them to think of something they want to say sorry to God for, and put the piece of rubbish in the net.

### The greatest show 5 mins ES

Show the clip (see [WEB](#)) from *The Greatest Showman* [PG] or find a picture that shows the many different people that made up the show. Then invite the young people to pray together:

Dear God, help me to see my place within your kingdom and to show others that they have a place too. **Amen.**

## Live your faith [Globe](#)

Ask God to show you the people who need to know that they have a place within God's kingdom, and when he shows you, pray for those people. **ESA**