

# 6 Parables

FOCUS

1. Our Catholic faith is a precious treasure.
2. God's love is the greatest treasure.
3. We give our hearts to God above all things.
4. God wants us to be happy with him in heaven.
5. Jesus taught, through the parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Mustard Seed, about God's Kingdom. It has great value. It affects all parts of our lives.
6. Jesus wants our love of God and others to grow.

Jesus told a story. Once there was a man looking for treasure. He looked and looked. One day he found it! The treasure was buried in a field. He was very happy! He put the treasure back in the field and hid it. Then he went away and sold everything he owned so that he could buy the field that had the treasure. Nothing was more important to him than enjoying that treasure. When people heard that story, they knew what Jesus meant. There is one treasure that is more important than anything else. That treasure is the Kingdom of God. When we find that gift, we keep it safe, and enjoy it forever.

One day a man took a mustard seed and planted it. The mustard seed grew slowly into a tree. The rain came, the sun shone, the tree grew bigger and bigger and bigger. After many years it had grown to its full height. The man could sit in its shade. Birds could build nests in its branches. The mustard seed had become what it was meant to be.

## SUGGESTED HOME ACTIVITIES

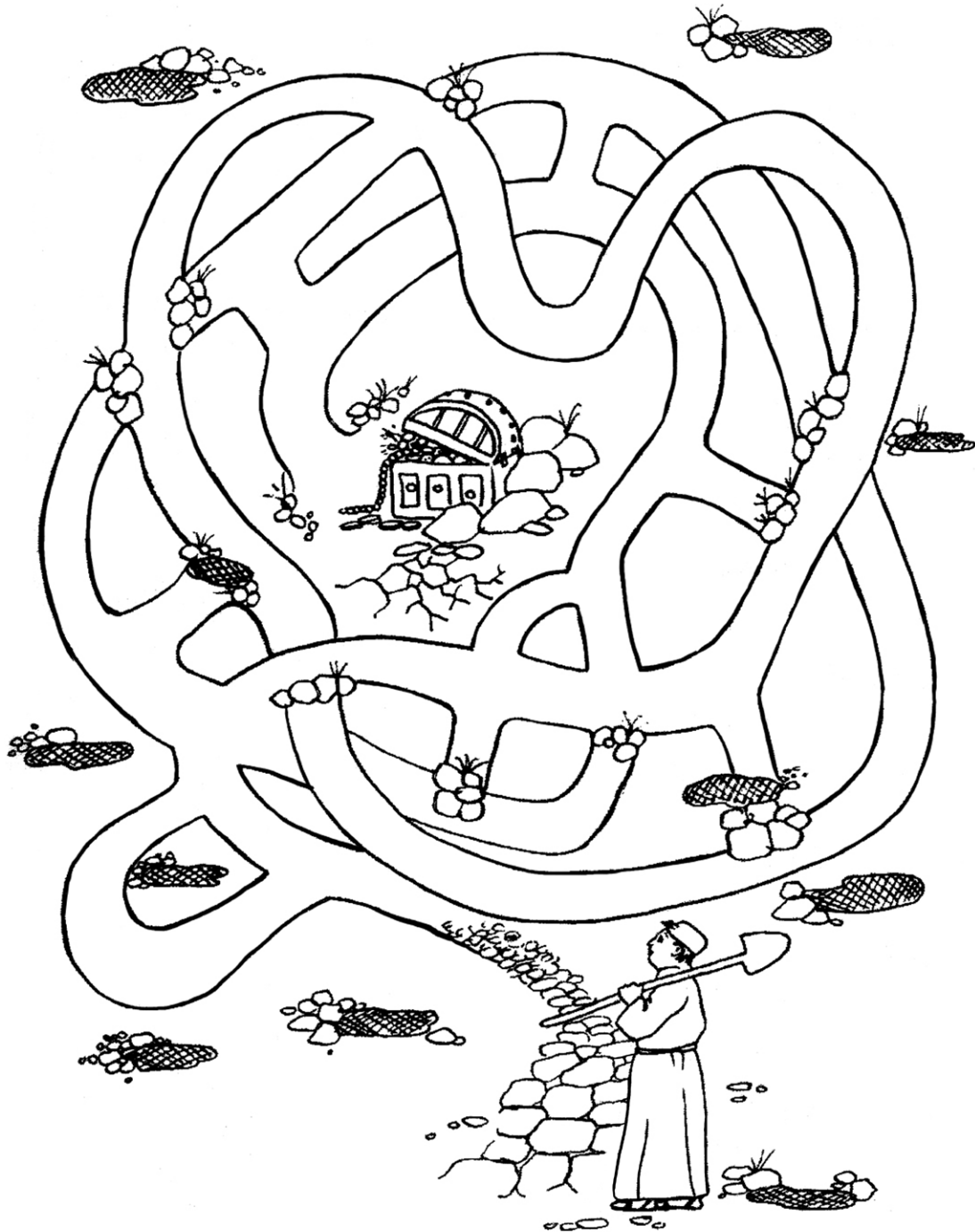
These are some suggested activities to do at home with your child.

1. Ask your child to suggest the things that are most precious to him or her. These might include personal items, family and friends. Explain to your child that the Kingdom of God is the most precious thing, the greatest treasure he or she will ever receive because it is a place where they will be happy with God forever.
2. Provide your child with some simple religious treasures and encourage him or her to value them throughout his or her life. These might include a crucifix or cross, a religious medal, or rosary beads.
3. Take your child to a local park. Explain to your child that the oldest and tallest trees were once small seeds. Explain that many of the trees will continue to live and grow for many years to come.
4. Explain to your child that God's love for us is bigger than the biggest tree.
5. More activities can be found at [www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au) Click on Home Activities.

## To Remember:

**God's love is the greatest  
treasure.  
Jesus wants our love for God  
and others to grow.**

Help the man find the path to the treasure.



Dear God,  
Thank you for the gifts you have given me,  
for the things I can touch and see.  
Thank you for the gift of family and friends,  
and for your love, which never ends.  
Amen.