The Parable of the Tenants (Lower Elementary)

October 4, 2020 – Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Overview

In this week’s Gospel passage, Jesus tells the parable of the tenants who killed the landowner’s son when he sent him to collect their produce. He explains that the stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and that the Kingdom of Heaven will be given to those that bear fruit. In this week’s lesson, students will consider ways for their lives to bear fruit.

Directions

A. Read the Gospel passage aloud to your students as they follow along. Then discuss the focus and reflection questions with them as a class.
B. Have students complete the Crack the Code activity.
C. When they have finished, explain to them that a cornerstone is the most important part of the foundation of a house. The rest of house is built upon its foundation. The cornerstone is the first stone that is laid, and builders use it to mark and measure where they will place every other stone in the house.
D. Finally, have your students complete the reflection question.

Answer Key

Focus Questions

1. He leases the vineyard to tenants and goes on a journey.
2. He sends his servants to the tenants to collect his produce.
3. They beat one servant, kill another, and stone the third. They treated his other servants in the same way.
4. The stone that the builders rejected will become the cornerstone.
5. The Kingdom of God will be given to the people that will produce its fruit.
Crack the Code

Answer: Cornerstone