The Parable of the Tenants
(Middle and Upper 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. Have your students read the Gospel passage, or read it aloud to your students, and then answer the focus questions.
B. Review and discuss the answers when they have completed the focus questions.
C. Have students complete The Parable of the Tenants worksheet and write 1-2 paragraphs on the writing prompt.

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. Finally, the landowner sends his son to them thinking that at least they will respect his son. The servants seize the landowner’s son, throw him out of the vineyard, and kill him to acquire his inheritance.
5. They say that the landowner will kill the wretched tenants and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him his produce at the proper times.
6. The stone that the builders rejected will become the cornerstone.
7. The Kingdom of God will be given to the people that will produce its fruit.