



# Faith Adventures for Children Together

*Committed to URC Children Together:  
enabling everyone to grow more like Jesus  
together in the home, church and beyond.*

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link:



Potential Trigger warning: If we look at this story in the context of relationships and friendships – they are often worth putting a bit of work into (as the gardener did with the fig tree) but, if something is beyond repair, it is better to just accept that. The owner of the vineyard was prepared to give the fig tree another chance because it might prove to be useful – if a friendship or a relationship is not useful to everyone involved, it may be best to cut your losses.











### **Wondering together: suggested questions to use during activities**

Is there anything you keep trying to remind other people to do to care for the environment, or do you just give up?

I wonder what would make you sad if it wasn't there any more?

### **What's in the box (for under fives)**

Use the special box or bag and sing "What's in the box/bag? What's in the box/bag? Let's see, let's see, what's in the box/bag" (to the tune of The Farmer's in the Dell). You could tap the top of the box twice after the word 'box'. Pull out the things one by one and then let the children play with them, talking about the theme or the story in simple terms.

This week's box could include:

Sticks – there aren't any leaves or fruit, I wonder what might grow on this twig

Clock or watch – sometimes we have to wait for things, the gardener waited for the tree, we have to wait sometimes for our food or for our birthday

Plastic spade or trowel – the gardener dug around the tree to look after it, this is how we





You will need:

- Bean seeds
- A plastic sandwich bag
- Some kitchen towel or paper tissue
- Lolly sticks
- Double sided tape

Put two damp, folded paper towels or tissues into the food bag. Carefully place two or three beans in the middle of the bag. Create a frame by sticking lolly sticks with double sided tape to the outside of the bag.

Sellotape the bag onto a window so that it gets the light and warmth it needs to grow. Keep a check on the bag to ensure the paper does not dry out and add some water as needed to keep the paper damp.

Wait patiently and within a week you will see something happening. Over the next few weeks, you will begin to have a bean growing in the bag. Look at the roots and the shoots and think about what the beans need to make them grow. I wonder what do you need to help you grow in faith?

Just as the fig tree needed care and attention, as your seed is growing it needs lots of care and attention too. As it grows and for it to flourish, it will need to be potted into a plant pot with good soil and watered regularly.

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### **Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way**

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with





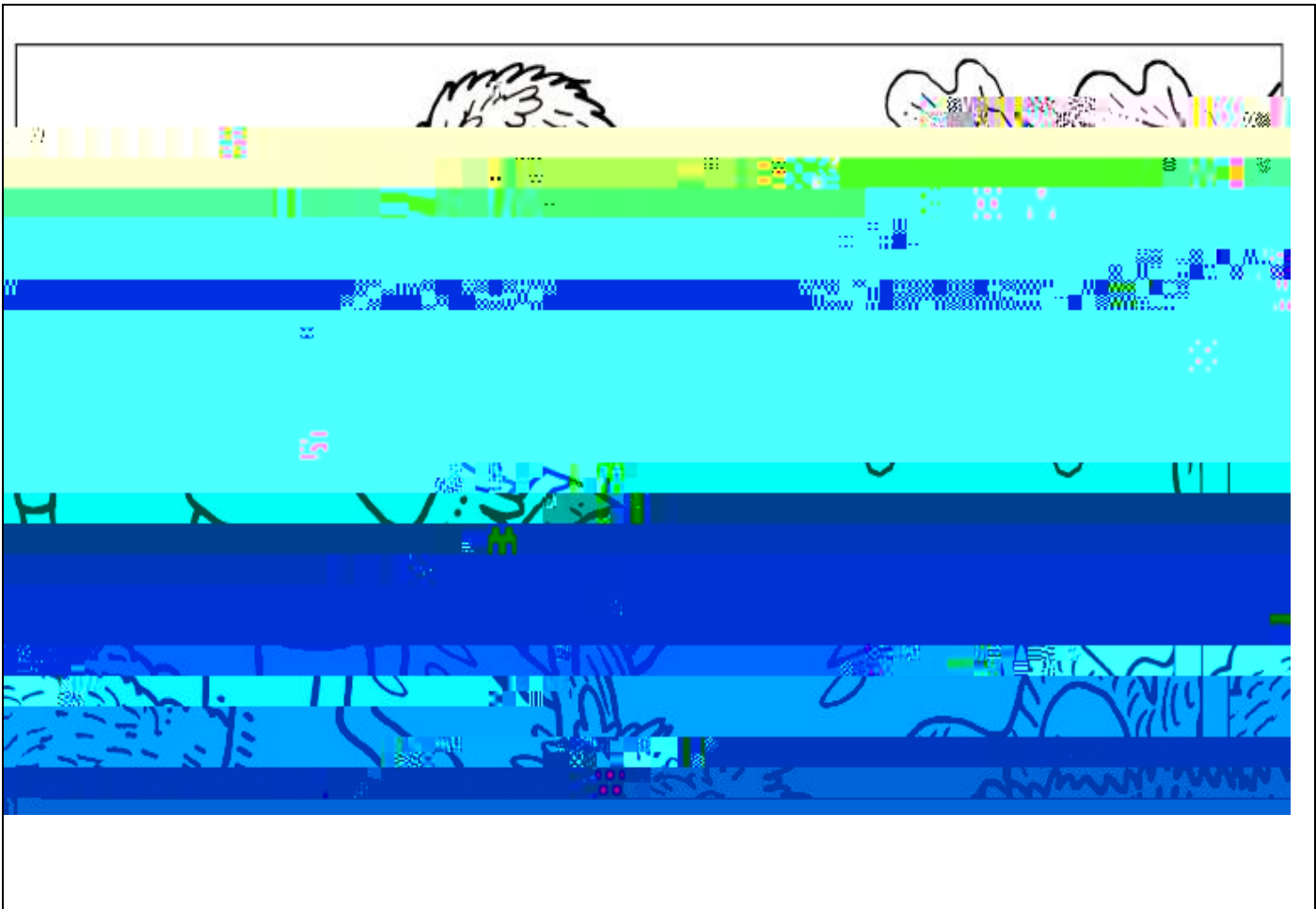


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