

# DAY TWO

## TAKING ROOT

Wednesday, July 29th, 2020

## REFLECTION

We're getting to the root of things today! Think back to the Parable of the Sower from the book of Mark. **Do you remember the part about seeds landing on the different types of ground? Which ones do you remember?**

Roots bring water and food from the soil to the rest of a plant. Roots make the plants strong. They work underground to support the part of the plant that's above ground. When a strong wind comes, the roots help keep the plant from tipping over. Sometimes storms topple plants that have strong roots, but usually the roots keep plants in place.

A seed cannot make roots to grow a plant unless it is planted in the good soil of the earth. A plant cannot stand on its own, unless it's planted there, too.

Just like plants, people have roots also! It's important that we grow people in healthy ways, too. Sometimes, people are rooted together — in families — in communities — as people who believe the same things.

I wonder what our roots are? I wonder how we stay rooted when things get tough? What are we rooted in?

God loves us as we are, and as one big root system. God loves us as creatures who belong to a beautiful body. God wants us to grow rooted in God's love.

Today while you think about your roots — try to understand how we can ground ourselves in a partnership with God — to protect God's creation, no matter what life may bring.

# Discover Your Roots

## Make a Sculpture



**What will kids do?** Kids create a sculpture of chenille stem roots holding their picture at the top and names or pictures of people who support them at each base.



**Why is this activity important?** Roots are a tree's strength and stability. God provides us with people to support us as we grow in faith. When kids identify and celebrate their supports, or roots, God's love is rooted even deeper.

1. On a device, or maybe from a real album, take a few moments to **scroll** through some photos.

Can you find the pictures of your family members? Birthday celebrations? Christmas or Easter mornings? Times with friends? Moments

in your community or church? These are your roots! These are the people and places that are supporting you as you grow, and are helping you stay rooted in God's love.

2. **Choose** 3 of your favorite pictures — the ones that really remind you of how you're rooted in God's love, and **print** those photos out if you're making a real-life sculpture. There are ideas for a **digital** or **hand drawn** option below.

If you don't have a printer or any real photos to use, we wonder what a digital version might look like... a word document collage? A slideshow? An iMovie creation? None of those work for you? Create individual drawings of your roots and continue on step 3.

3. Cut three paper rectangles (2" x 3" [5 cm x 7 cm]). For each sculpture, place three chenille stems together and twist them together 1 1/2" (3 cm) from the top. Open the top to look like a fork, and open the "legs" of the sculpture and create "feet" by making small curls.

### Get Ready

- ❑ variety of root samples: grass, carrots, dandelions, pictures of tree roots
- ❑ brown chenille stems, 3
- ❑ photos:
  - X1 photo of you
  - X3 photos of your roots (see below)
- ❑ light colored construction paper (or recycled or reused paper)
- ❑ crayons or colored pencils
- ❑ stapler and staples
- ❑ recycled plastic bowls



# From Farm to Family



**What will kids do?** Kids create circle graphs to understand how everyday items begin in nature and make it to their tables.



**Why is this activity important?** In order to take root, seedlings need light, nutrients, the right temperature, water, and space in correct balance. God's seeds of love take root in a nurturing church community. This activity asks kids to consider the kinds of foods that best help them stay healthy and keep them rooted in the goodness of creation.

**Note:** pp 65-67 are included in the back of this packet, and also on the [VBS website](#).

**Note:** Good for rainy days!

**Afterwards:** Join us at 12:30 for lunch or a short snack on Zoom!



## Get Ready

- copies of pp. 65-67
- bowl to hold puzzle pieces
- 3 pieces of poster board or cardboard
- marker
- tape
- image on this page, (enlarged, optional)

## Get Set (Up)

Read the information on the copies of pp. 65-67. Cut into 18 puzzle pieces and mix together in the bowl. Draw a 6-wedge circle graph on each poster board, with each wedge large enough to place one puzzle piece. If your group is small, prepare puzzle pieces for one puzzle at a time rather than combining all three. If it is large, make more puzzles or ask kids to work in pairs.