

## Session 6

# Messy Harvest

### Bible reference

Mark 4:26–29

### How does this session help people grow in Christ?

This session is ideally presented at Harvest time, when the work of the scarecrow is complete, having watched over the crops from sowing to reaping. The parable of the growing seed helps us to think about the many ways in which God has watched over us from childhood, through both good and challenging times, even though we are often unaware of his presence.

### Messy team theme

- Talk about childhood memories.
- Encourage sharing of life experiences/family/work/hobbies.



## Activity

**You will need: thin garden canes; green garden tape; round polystyrene balls; cupcake cases; wool; eyes; peppercorns; raffia; material; ribbon; funky foam or material scraps; scissors; double-sided sticky tape or glue stick.**

With two pieces of garden cane, form a cross approximately 30 cm x 22 cm and secure with green garden tape or sticky tape. Cut a piece of material 50 cm x 20 cm and double it over. Cut a small hole in the top centre and place it over the stick. Place a polystyrene ball on top and construct the head by securing hair (wool) and a hat (cupcake case) with double-sided tape or a glue stick. Stick on the eyes and peppercorn nose, and draw on a mouth. Make raffia hands and secure with sticky tape. Decorate the tunic with scraps of foam or material. Add a ribbon tie and a raffia belt.

## Celebration

You might choose one of the following:

Retell Jesus' parable in your own words. Talk about the cross underneath the scarecrow's clothing and the way we are watched over as we grow to ripeness.

Tell a story of a time when you felt watched over and protected, then share Jesus' story and remind people of God's ever-present watchful love for each person.

Bring in half-grown seedlings and talk about what they have come from, what they might become and how they need nurturing throughout their existence; then talk about Jesus' parable and God's invisible presence.

### Song suggestions

We plough the fields  
Now thank we all our God  
Great is thy faithfulness  
For the fruits of his creation