

# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

**AGE RANGE:** Elementary

**INTENTION:** To help the children think about the many roles that we have in planting seeds (in this exercise and in life), and to reflect on the power of God in the growth of those seeds.

**MATERIALS:** paper cups, seed starter potting mix, easy-to-grow seeds such as marigold, zinnia, or bean seeds, water

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NIV

## INSTRUCTIONS

In our story today, the people who followed Paul were mad because Apollos was teaching. They thought Paul should be the only one to teach. Paul told them that he was the one that first taught them. He planted the seeds of understanding in their minds. But then Apollos came and watered those seeds. Apollos came and taught things that helped those thoughts in their minds grow. So Paul said, "Don't be mad. Each person has something important to do. And only God makes things grow."

Today we're going to plant some seeds. We have different kinds of seeds. And we have different jobs. Here are the jobs we have:

1. Set out paper cups
2. Put dirt in cups
3. Plant seeds in cups
4. Water the seeds
5. Put the cups on a table or windowsill to grow

*[assign jobs and plant seeds – if you have a large group, you can divide up into teams planting different kinds of seeds]*

The apostle Paul told people that we all have different jobs to do but we all have one goal. We work together to make things happen. And God blesses us by making them grow.

We are collecting a special offering for Week of Compassion. That money goes to help people here and around the



world. Some need help after a disaster has damaged their home. Some need help finding a new home if they've had to leave because of war. Others need help learning to grow new crops, getting clean water, or going to school. In many different places, this offering helps people find solutions to problems, learn new things, grow as people, and help their families and communities become stronger and healthier. We are God's co-workers, planting seeds of hope and love and peace. As we watch something new grow from the seeds we just planted, remember and pray for the people who will receive our gifts. We are investing in their futures, trusting that God will grow something new for them as well.

## PRAYER

Thank you, God, for blessing us with seeds of love and hope. Help us to do our job, sharing your love and hope with others. Bless our offering to Week of Compassion and help our gifts to grow. In the name of Jesus, Amen.