

The Fig Tree

Storyteller (*picks up the Parable Box*): I wonder what this is? It is the colour gold. Something inside must be precious like gold. Perhaps there is a parable inside. Parables are even more precious than gold.

Luke 13:6-9

"A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.

13:7 So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?'

13:8 He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.

13:9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

It is closed. *Knock on the lid*. It has a lid. Perhaps there is a parable inside. Parables are closed; they need to be opened up so we can see what is in them.

The box looks like a present. Parables were given to us long ago as presents. Even if you don't know what a parable is, the parable is already yours. Shall we open it? Let's look inside.

Put the fig tree up in the middle of the flannelboard. Jesus said, "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard.

Put the landowner next to the tree. He came looking for fruit on it and found none.

Put the gardener next to the landowner. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?'

Put the shovel in the hands of the gardener. The gardener replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Story Materials

- ☐ Flannelboard
- ☐ Parable Box, containing
 - ☐ Fig tree
 - ☐ Landowner
 - ☐ Gardener
 - ☐ Shovel