Mid-Week Devotion

Read: Hebrews 11

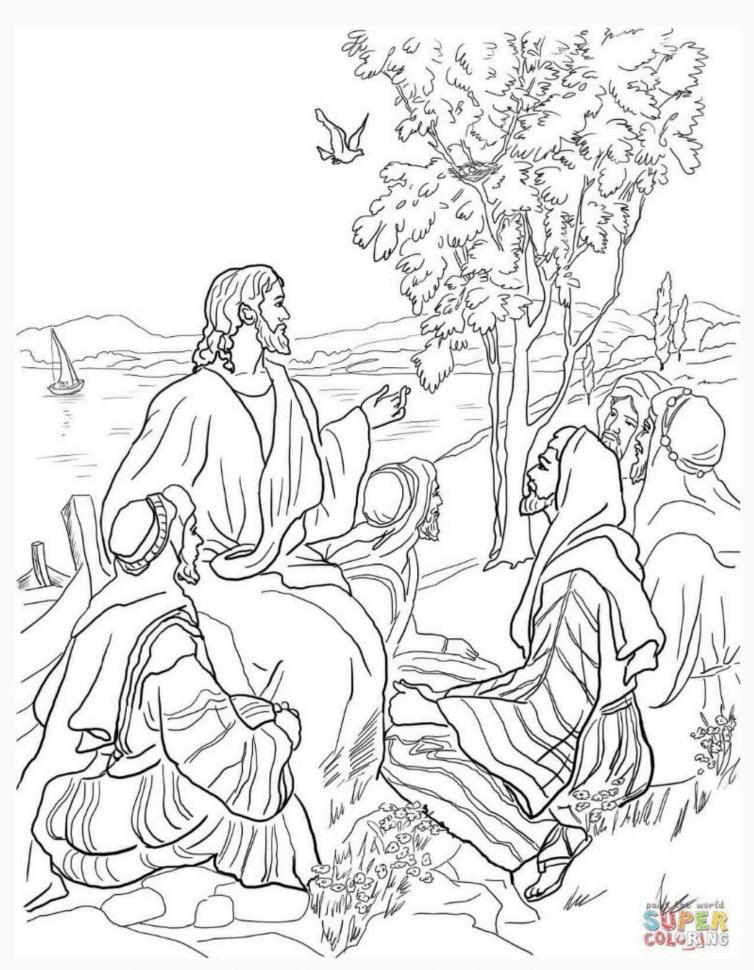
Reflect:

The Writer introduces the image of the city in Hebrews 10:10-16, which is developed further in the later chapters. The promise in chapter 11 is about the land. In Hebrews 12:12, it is the heavenly Jerusalem. In 13:14 it is the future city, contrasted with any city to which one might give allegiance here on earth, perhaps particularly the earthly Jerusalem itself.

Jerusalem was considered the holy city, but in Jewish writings roughly contemporary with the New Testament, there was a belief God had established a "true" or heavenly Jerusalem, waiting for the day when heaven and earth would be remade. This image is picked up in the great description of the new Jerusalem in Revelation 21-22.

Respond:

 Considering the heroes of faith in this chapter, what might it mean to live by faith in God's future world while the society around us is living as though the present world is all there is?



The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast Matthew 13:31-33

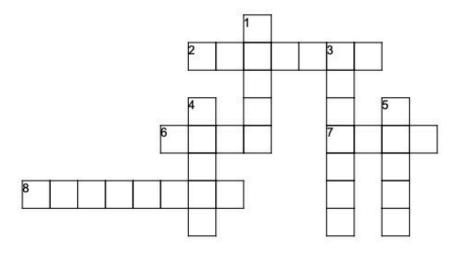
Mustard Seeds and Yeast

Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. Matthew 13:34 (NIV)



This activity is based on Matthew 13:31-33.

Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct words in the numbered grid below.



ACROSS

- A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
- A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
- To become larger; to increase in size or amount
- 8. Not as big as any of the others

DOWN

- A food made from dough of flour or meal
- 3. Bigger than any of the others
- 4. A member of the fungus family used in baking to help make the dough rise
- A mixture of flour, water, and other ingredients to make bread

LARGEST	YEAST	DOUGH	BREAD
SMALLEST	SEED	PARABLE	GROW