

Children's Sermon for Oct. 20 (based on Luke 18:1-8)

Items needed: potted plant, light.

After kids come up, show them the plant, and tell them you are hoping that the plant will grow bigger. To help the plant grow bigger, you are going to pull on the plant-HARD. Pull, hard, on one of the branches, until that piece of the plant breaks off. Did my pulling help the plant grow bigger--no! What I could do, instead, to help this plant grow bigger is-(put plant under lit lamp, and then stand back.) Now, do you see anything happening? No, but as we watch, the light from the lamp is—slowly helping this plant to grow bigger. In today's Bible reading, Jesus encourages us to keep praying, to keep trying to listen for God, as God speaks to us through other people, through beauty and kindness, and through God's whispers inside us, and for us to keep praying, to keep sharing with God what is in our heart. Praying, and praying more, sometimes feels like this plant under this lamp. It may seem like nothing is happening, but when we pray, the light of God's Spirit is working on our heart, helping it to grow

By Rev. Dave Quinn