

# Wild Card Extra - **Serve and Follow**

Scripture Reference: John 12:20–33

## **New Seed, New Life**

Kids learn how seeds give new life as they learn that love grows from the inside out.

### **Spark Resources**

- Spark Bibles

### **Supplies**

- Small clay pots, 1 per kid
- Sunflower seeds, 1–2 per kid
- Potting soil or dirt
- Watering can(s)
- Potting shovels
- Newspaper (optional)
- Fabric paint (optional)
- Permanent markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)

### **Set Up:**

Consider taking this activity outside. If going outdoors won't work, spread newspaper over the workspace.

### **Instructions:**

**In the Bible reading today, Jesus talks about a single grain of wheat. Before it can grow anything, it must die and be planted in the ground. Jesus uses this image as a metaphor for our own faith journeys—sometimes, we have to let go of the things we want as we grow up and serve God.**

1. Show kids the seeds and talk about how they grow.
2. Reread John 12:24 from the Spark Bible (pg. 1189). How does Jesus' message compare to what we know about seeds?
3. Show kids the supplies and give each kid a small clay pot.
4. Help kids fill their small pots halfway with potting soil
5. kids dig a small hole in the soil, then plant 1–2 sunflower seeds.
6. Allow kids to cover the seeds up with more soil.
7. Water the plants.

**You can take these plants home as a reminder to spread God's love. As your sunflowers grow, remember that love grows from the inside out.**

If you have less time. . .

Fill each pot halfway with soil before kids arrive.

If you have more time. . .

Allow kids to decorate their pots with fabric paint, permanent markers, and stickers.