

United with Families

March 6th, 2022

The Sower

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23 (Mark 4:1-9,14-20, Luke 8:4-8,11-15)

Bible Verse "And the seeds sown in the good soil stand for those who hear the message and understand it: they bear fruit, some as much as one hundred, others sixty, and others thirty." Matthew 13:23

The Story: Jesus left the house and walked along the shore. A large crowd gathered, so once again, Jesus got into a boat to teach while the people listened on the beach. This is one of the stories he told. A farmer went out to sow some seeds of grain. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road where it was stepped on or the birds ate it. Some of the seeds fell on rocky ground where, after they sprouted, they shriveled and dried because the roots could not get moisture. Some of the seeds fell among the weeds and were choked out. Some of the seeds fell on good soil and the plants grew well and the harvest for some was a hundred grains, others 60 and other 30 grains. Jesus went on to explain that the seed was God's word. Sometimes God's word is heard, but like the seeds on the road, it does not take root in our hearts. The seeds on rocky ground are like those people who do not feed their faith, so it withers away. The people who are like the seeds growing in the weeds are those who don't put God first and their faith is crowded out. Those who hear God's word, continue to learn about God, make God a priority, and act in God's ways will bear fruit as a sign of their faithfulness to God.

Story Video: <https://youtu.be/pbe3wggNiLk> Godly Play - The Parable of the Sower Jun 21, 2020

Talk about: What do you need to grow? How have you grown recently (other than height)? When and where do you hear God? How can you be like the good soil and show God's message in your actions with your family, your friends and with others?

Music Videos: https://youtu.be/V_GEC5Rs0JY The Sower (song) Apr 6, 2020
<https://youtu.be/1Yah8qFePLg> You are the Seed Jul 13, 2020

God Sightings: Think of all the wonderful things you can see; things created by God- our families you, me, stars, sun, moon, animals, birds, and everything! We are looking at ways we see what God is doing or has done all around you. A God Sighting might be a hug or a beautiful sunrise or sunset. **You can be a God Sighting by being kind to others. My God Sighting:** _____

Faith and Prayer: Holy Spirit, May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives producing an abundant harvest of good words and deeds. Amen.

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For Youth (grade 6 and up)

Talk about: This parable has been called the parable of the careless sower, the miraculous harvest, the helpless, hapless seeds, or the good soil? Which name(s) do you think best describes the story? Why? Where do you see yourself in this parable? Jesus implies that his teaching is like seeds. What do you think Jesus would like you to do in response to his teaching?

Music Video: https://youtu.be/WxHgeJzQf_o The Sower's Song Mar 11, 2019