

R.E.: The Parable of the Sower Monday 8th February 2021



Do you remember what we learned last week about parables?

A parable is a short **easily remembered** story that has an **important message**. They are stories about **every day** things or events as this helps people to understand them. Lots of the parables Jesus told were about looking after sheep or meeting robbers on the road as these are things that his **audience** (the people listening to him) knew all about. The parables were **quite simple** – there were never too many characters or a difficult plot to follow. Jesus did this to help people **follow the story and help them remember it so they could pass it on to others**. Jesus used parables **to teach people about the Kingdom of God**. Every parable He told had **a message**.

Can you complete these sentences:

Jesus told parables because....

Jesus told parables but

Jesus told parables so





What do you think of when you look at this picture. Write down your ideas using full sentences. Can you think of at least 8 things to say about it?

Today's story is one of the many **parables** that **Jesus** told in the Bible.

This parable is about **the Sower and the Seed**.

Sometimes it is called **the Parable of the Soils**.

We need to read it carefully and then we will think about what it means.

Read the story on the next few pages or listen to Mrs Riley reading it by following the link on our Remote Learning page.



Jesus had gone out and sat down by the lake by Himself. Soon, such large crowds gathered around Him that He got into a boat near the shore. People stood on the land to hear Him. Then He began to tell them a story.



A farmer went out to plant his garden. As he was throwing the seeds on the ground, some fell on the hard path nearby and the birds came and ate them.



The next seeds fell near some rocks in a pile the farmer had nearby. There was not much dirt around the rocks but the seeds started to sprout and grow. However when seeds aren't planted in the dirt, they don't grow roots and don't thrive (**grow well**).



So in the afternoon when the sun was very hot, the little plants that had started to grow among the rocks withered away and died because they had no root in the ground.



As the farmer continued to throw seeds onto the ground, some of the seeds fell among the weeds and thorns that he hadn't pulled out. The thorns grew faster and taller than the seeds, so the seeds couldn't get enough sunlight and were choked by the thorns.



Finally, some seed fell on the good soil that the farmer had worked on and dug holes for the seed to go into. Those seeds made plants and those plants produced lots and lots of vegetables.



Jesus said, “When people teach you things, they are planting a seed in your mind. The seed is a lesson and as you learn more the seed grows and gets bigger and you eventually will know lots about God and be able to tell others about Him.”



“If you don't ask when you don't understand, you will forget what you learned and it will be like the seeds that fell on the path and were eaten by the birds. You will forget and the seed will be gone from your mind and it won't grow.”



“If you don't learn more, the seed in your mind won't grow and it will be like the seed that fell on the rocks. It grew only for a short time and then it died.”



“The next seed is the one that was choked by the thorns. This can happen when you hear a lesson about God and then start to worry about all kinds of things. By worrying, you will choke the seed in your mind. Pray to God instead of worrying!”



“The last seed is the best, it fell on the good ground. If you learn from what you hear, the seed in your mind will grow. You will be able to tell others about what you’ve learned.”



After **Jesus** told the parable the disciples asked what it meant. **He** knew that they would really listen and wanted to get to know **Him** better, so **He** told them what it meant.

Jesus was comparing this story to how well we let God's love grow in our hearts and our minds.

The seed is God's love. How that love grows within us , depends on how open we are to doing what God wants us to do. Our hearts and minds are like the soil onto which the farmer threw the seeds.

Read through the next few pages to find out...

THE PARABLE



The seeds that fell on the path
All the birds thought of was the seeds. They did not hear what God was telling them.

OF THE SOWER



The seeds that fell on the rocks:
You don't really believe what God says. You hear but don't listen.

OR THE PARABLE OF THE FOUR TYPES OF SOIL

THE PARABLE



The seeds that were choked by weeds and thorns

You start off trying to do what God wants but, because it is difficult, you give up..

OF THE SOWER



The seeds that fell on good soil:
You listen to God and understand what he wants you to do. You then follow in Jesus' footsteps and show others what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

OR THE PARABLE OF THE FOUR TYPES OF SOIL

Your Task 1



Design a seed packet that explains the meaning of this parable.

The instructions on the packet must explain what you have oil do to live like Jesus.

Your Task 2

In verse 5, rocks prevent the seeds from growing roots. What things can distract me from being a good listener to God, my parents, and my teachers?

In verse 7, thorns push and crowd the plants. What negative words or advice do I sometimes hear which might push out God's good words?

In verse 8, some seeds fell on good soil. These grew into a good crop. What good habits can I form so that my heart and mind will be "good soil" for God's word?

Think about how you respond to what God wants you to do, then answer these questions.

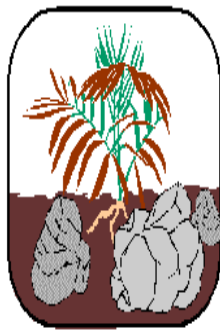
Reflection

The Parable of the Sower

The Seed is the Word of God



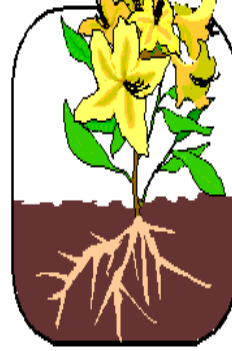
The Path



The Rocky Soil



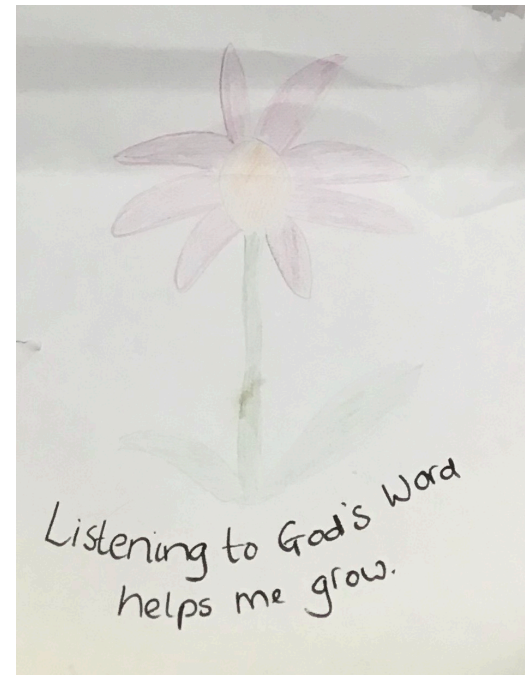
The Weedy Soil



The Good Soil

What type of Soil are You?
Is God Growing in Your Heart?

Create a 'slogan' (a simple sentence) to sum up what this story means to you.



Well done Year 2.
You are amazing.

