

# Parable of the Sower and the Seed

Matthew 13: 1-23



Have any of you ever used any of these tools? Have you ever lived on a farm? Have you ever planted a garden? Some of you may have planted a garden or watched your parents or grandparents plant a garden. There is a lot of work involved in planting and caring for a garden.

First you will need a shovel to break up the ground. When you dig into the ground big clots of dirt come off the shovel. You have to break apart those big clods of dirt.

Then you will need a rake to remove the rocks and keep the soil smooth.

You will need a hoe to chop down the weeds that might try to take over your garden.

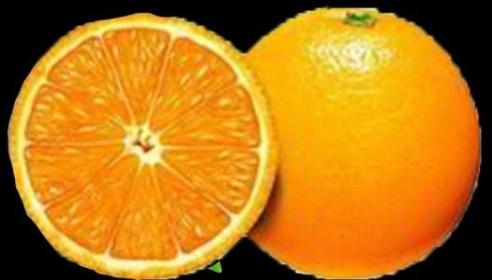
You will probably need some fertilizer to make the plants grow strong.

Of course you will need a hose to water your garden unless it rains a lot.

Oh, I almost forgot the important thing you will need for your garden - the seeds! You can't have a garden without seeds! Now we have everything we need to produce a great crop of fruits and vegetables.

## Mix and match

Can you match these seeds to their plant?



## Story Time

Jesus used growing plants to tell a story - the parable or story was to teach people about how differently people receive His message

You can either read the story below or have a look at this video:

<https://youtu.be/HC8BeI3GGcI>

One day a big crowd of people gathered to see Jesus. Everyone left what they were doing just so they could come and hear Jesus. After all Jesus told interesting stories.



They really wanted to hear the stories that Jesus told but the crowd was too large for everyone to hear. What would Jesus do? Seeing a boat nearby Jesus climbed aboard. Now He could see the people and they could see and hear Him. Jesus began to tell parables which were stories about ordinary things that taught people about God. After everyone was quiet Jesus began his story.

"One day a farmer went out to his field to plant a crop. As he walked up and down the plowed up ground, he took handfuls of seed from his seed pouch and scattered them on the ground.



Now some of the scattered seed fell on a footpath where the dirt was packed down as hard and smooth as clay. When the seeds fell on this soil they just bounced up and down. This soil was far too hard for any seed to put down roots and grow! So the seeds just lay there on the path until the birds came swooping down and swoosh! they gobbled up the seeds.



Some of the other seeds that the farmer scattered landed on stony parts of the field. The seed fell between the stones but the soil was not very deep there. The seeds grew quickly into spindly puny plants. Soon the hot sun came out and shriveled them up because they did not have any roots in the shallow soil.





Other seed fell among the thistles and thorns. At first the thorny weeds grew so fast that they cast a shadow on the young plants. As the thorny weeds grew bigger and bigger they took all the water and light that the young plants needed. Soon the weeds choked out the young plants and they died.

Then Jesus said, "The seed fell on soft, rich soil and they grew into an crop." Because the ground was good, the seeds could become healthy plants bearing plenty of new grain. was delighted when he saw the crop! Some plants had times what he planted, some 60 times and some even a more than what he had planted.



rest of the enormous sprout and The farmer produced 30 100 times

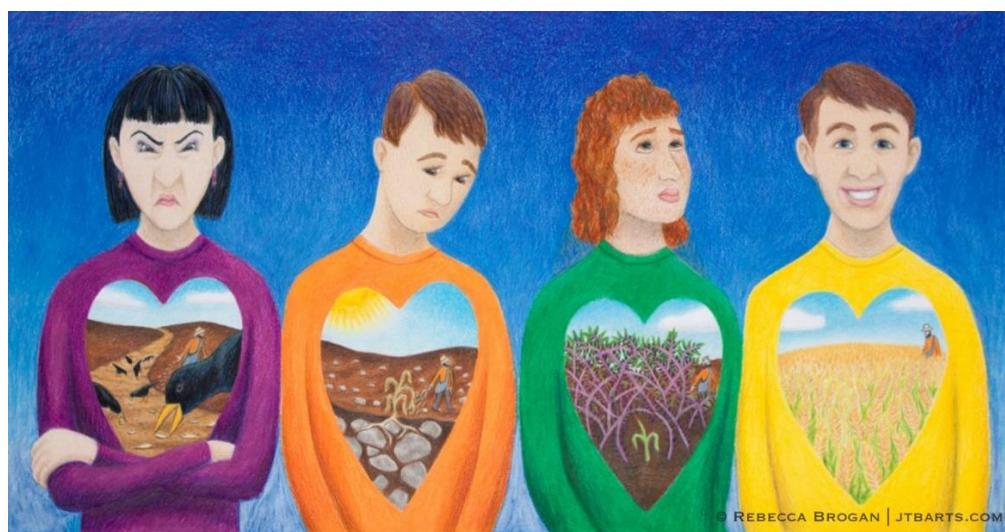
Then Jesus told the crowds, "Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

The seed the farmer sows is like God's Word. Some people are like the see that falls on the path. They listen but as soon as they hear what God says, they quickly forget it again.

Others are like the seed sown in rocky places. They hear what god says with joy but as they have no root, when troubles come they quickly fall away.

Some are like the seed sown among thorns. They hear what God says but the worries of life makes them turn away.

But others are like the seed sown on good soil. They hear God's Word and obey it. They produce a harvest of good as they live for God--some 30 times bigger, some 60 times bigger and some 100 times bigger."



© REBECCA BROGAN | JTBARTS.COM

Heavenly Father, We want to be like the good soil. Help us to study Your Word and put it into practice in our daily life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Memory Verse: James 1:22 "But be doers of the word and not hearers only."

## An idea to help you visualise

Materials: 1 medium size rock; 1 bowl to hold rock; Small sponge; A small cup of water

Word of God - represented by the water,

Someone with a hardened heart - represented by the rock,

Someone with the right heart - represented by the sponge.

Pour the water onto the rock. When we try to explain the Word of God to someone with a hard heart, it will not soak in. It just rolls off.

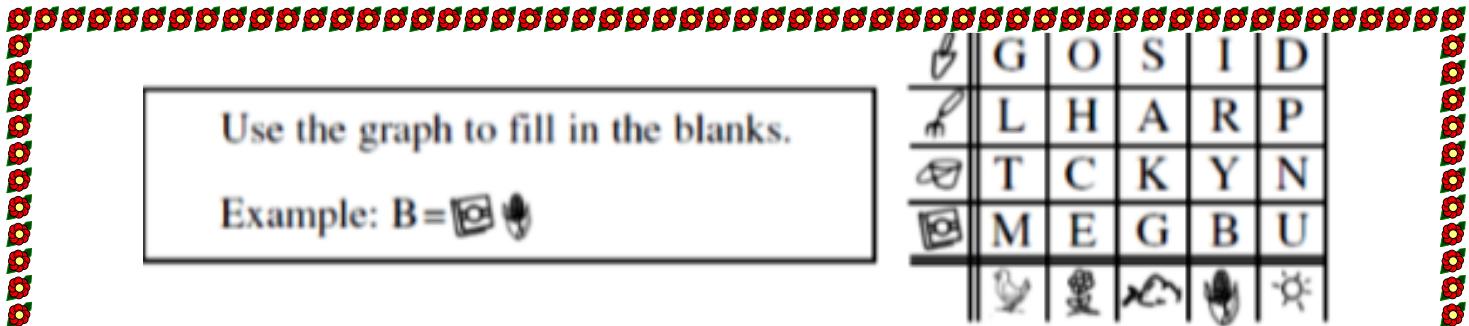
Pour the water onto the sponge. When we explain the Word of God to a person with a soft and open heart, he or she will soak the information in."

## Challenges for you...

Go to the park or nearby woods and take a walk. As you walk along the path enjoying the beauty that God has created. Ask yourself why the grass doesn't grow on the path. Look into the undergrowth - do you think that the seeds would grow well there? Now find a space where you think they would grow well - describe it either in words or pictures.

Maybe use this frame to draw your picture in?





Use the graph to fill in the blanks.

Example: B =

See if you can finish the sentences below...

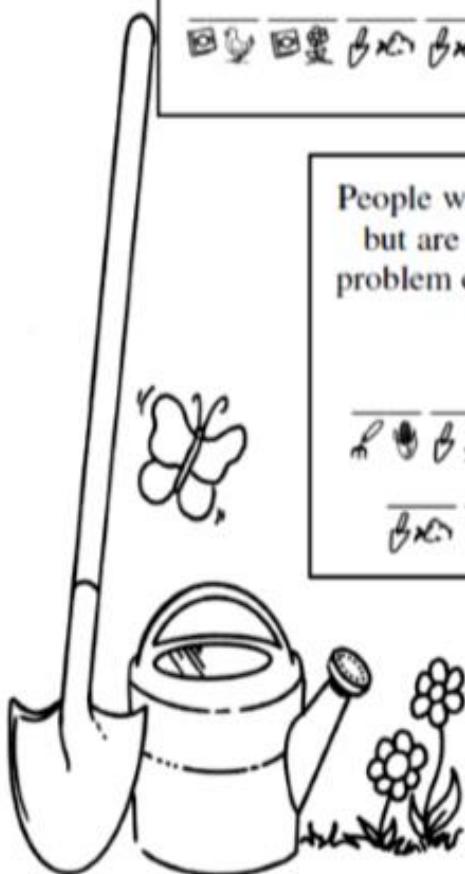
The seed is

People who don't understand the Word of God are like the

People who hear God's Word but are only happy until a problem comes along are like the

People who hear God's Word but care more about wealth and worldly things are like the seedlings in the

People who hear God's Word, spread it to others and keep it always are like the



Help the Seed grow through the soil



## Parable of the Sower Luke 8

# Will It Grow?

Add the numbers in the box to get the code number for each letter. Then solve the puzzle.

A	$17+34 =$	_____
B	$28+44 =$	_____
C	$39+57 =$	_____
D	$16+65 =$	_____
E	$62+37 =$	_____
F	$41+38 =$	_____
G	$24+33 =$	_____
H	$47+29 =$	_____
I	$24+58 =$	_____
L	$41+25 =$	_____
N	$23+15 =$	_____
O	$29+49 =$	_____
P	$22+11 =$	_____
R	$55+34 =$	_____
S	$29+16 =$	_____
T	$44+26 =$	_____
U	$13+14 =$	_____
V	$23+68 =$	_____
W	$23+19 =$	_____
Y	$36+25 =$	_____

Farmers plant seeds in all types of soils. Fertilizer is used in order to grow a good crop. But the question is still there—will it grow? Christians spread the Word of God to all types of listeners. What is necessary for the seed of faith to grow in each person's heart?

72 27 70      70 76 99      45 99 99 81      78 38

57 78 78 81      45 78 82 66      45 70 51 38 81 45

79 78 89      70 76 78 45 99      42 82 70 76      51

38 78 72 66 99      51 38 81      57 78 78 81

76 99 51 89 70      42 76 78      76 99 51 89      70 76 99

42 78 89 81      89 99 70 51 82 38      82 70      51 38 81

72 61      33 99 89 45 99 91 99 89 82 38 57

33 89 78 81 27 96 99      51      96 89 78 33



**J**esus told a story about a man who planted seeds. Some grew into healthy plants, but others did not.

Color the picture.

