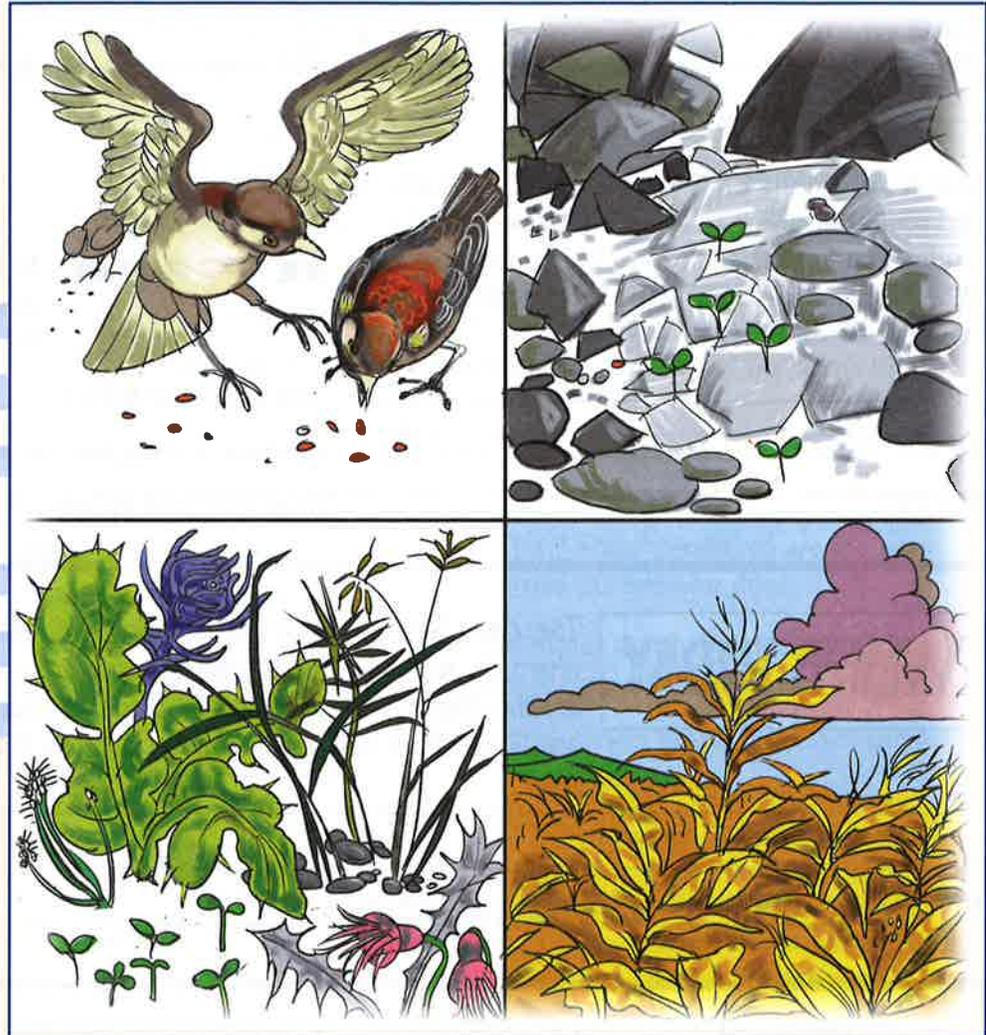


Matthew 13:3-9,18-23

?
What happens when people hear the Word of God?



Why might two people hear the same message and have different reactions?





Matthew 13:3-9

1. Jesus taught many stories about everyday life to explain God's kingdom. Fill in this common definition of a parable.

A parable is an _____ story with a _____ meaning.

2. Look at the picture on the front of your student lesson. Label each of the four sections with one of these titles: Hard Path, Rocky Places, Thorny Soil, Good Soil. Then write here what happened to the seed that fell on each.

Hard path: _____

Rocky places: _____

Thorny soil: _____

Good soil: _____

3. Unscramble the words in these sentences to begin to tell the parable's meaning:

The _____ stands for _____.
arrem odG

The _____ that is cast far and wide is God's
dese

_____.
oWdr



In Jesus' parable, what happened to the farmer's seed?

The seed that fell on _____ soil did not produce a crop, but the seed on _____ soil took root and produced a crop.



The Good Seed In Jesus' parable, the seed that was sown was good; where the seed fell made the difference as to whether or not it grew into healthy plants that produced good crops. The seed stands for God's Word, and God's Word is good. Write three reasons that God's Word is good.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Matthew 13:18-22

4. What disastrous things happen to some people while they are still here on earth?

a. (Hard path) Some people don't believe or understand God's Word so ...

b. (Rocky places) Some people joyfully receive God's Word but have no roots in the Word so ...

c. (Thorny soil) Some hearers are so concerned about the things of this world that ...

5. What eventually will happen to all who do not believe in God's saving message?



When people's hearts are not ready to hear God's Word, what sad things happen?

They will spend eternity in _____ because God's Word did not take root in their _____ and they did not believe.

W GOD'S WORD TODAY

Which Kind of Soil? Write the kind of "soil" being shown in each hearer's heart.

Hard path Rocky soil Thorny soil



Miranda learns about Jesus from a friend and eagerly borrows a book of Bible stories. When her family sees the book, they ridicule her for "reading that nonsense." So Miranda returns the book and tells her friend she doesn't want to hear any more about Jesus.



Adrian is so busy with school and with all his sports and music activities that he never has time to read God's Word, and soon he and his family get so busy that they rarely find time for church.



Paige goes to the first day of vacation Bible school with her friend and hears the creation story, but she doesn't believe it because she's always been taught in school that the world evolved.

W GOD'S WORD

Matthew 13:23

6. Cross out four incorrect words and add four correct words above them to show the meaning of the passage.

The seed falling on sandy soil refers to when someone ignores the Word and forgets it. This is the one who destroys a crop a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown.

7. Write "yes" if the statement is true and "no" if it is false.

- a. _____ The "good soil" is a heart prepared to receive the Word.
- b. _____ We can come to faith in Jesus on our own by making our hearts "good soil."

c. _____ The "crops" produced are the good works the believer does.

8. Circle the things that happen to a person who is firmly rooted in God's Word.

- understands God's Word grows spiritually
- produces many good works
- earns life in heaven goes to heaven

KEY POINT

What did Jesus teach about those whom God causes to believe his Word?

As a believer's faith grows, he or she

_____ a life of good works and will join all believers in _____.

W GOD'S WORD TODAY

Good Fruit Through faith, we want to produce good works to thank God. Here are some fruits of faith. Draw a line to connect each sentence blank with the correct fruit.

We treat our parents and teachers with _____.

We are _____ to others.

We gladly _____ God's Word.



Aim: What happens when people hear the Word of God?

Truth: While many people refuse to _____ the Word, God causes others to believe it and produce _____ works.

Application: We ask _____ to make and keep us good hearers and doers of his _____.

Response: Through his Word, God strengthens our _____ so that we produce good _____.



Mark 9:24

John 6:68

*** Romans 10:17**

*** The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed**

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church

on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn 282:1

Memory Treasures Exercises

Which memory treasure passage

- reminds us that God's Word produces an active faith?

- is a prayer we can use to ask God to strengthen our faith?

- tells us that God's Word is true and is the only teaching that leads us to heaven?



at Home

Show the lesson picture to your parents as you tell them the parable and its spiritual meanings. With their help, answer this question:

Why are we the fourth kind of "soil" and "plant"?

Student's initials: _____ **Parent's initials:** _____