



Poem. Let three children each recite a verse from **Psalm 1:1-3**:
How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season
And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers.

Let older children write poems or a song about the four kinds of soils and what they represent.



Memorise Acts 4:12.

Prayer. “Dear Jesus, help us to sow the seed of your kingdom by telling other people about you. We want your Word to take root in our hearts and bear good fruit.”

The Kingdom of God Keeps Spreading

Jesus illustrated how the Kingdom of God spreads now and throughout history

Prayer. “Dear Lord, please help the children to sow your Word in the hearts of their friends. Let your Word take root like seed, grow and bear fruit in the children’s hearts.”

Choose activities that fit the children’s ages and spiritual needs.

Let an older child or an adult tell Jesus’ story of four soils, from **Matthew 13:3-9 & 18-23**.



Explain what happens when different kinds of people hear God’s good news.

- The story illustrates how God’s kingdom has steadily grown throughout the ages.
- Some people reject Jesus’ words. Others accept them.
- Satan attacks God’s people but God’s Word steadily keeps spreading and will soon take root among all peoples of the world.

Ask the children these **questions**:

- Three soils were bad. What was wrong with them?
- Where did the seed take root, grow and bear fruit?
- How is the good news of the gospel like the seed?

- What happens when seed falls on good soil?
- What kind of people are like the poor soil?
- What happens when people hear the good news and believe it?



Dramatize parts of the story of the four soils

- Arrange with the worship leader for the children to present the drama to the adults.
- Prepare the drama during your teaching time with the children.
- Let older children help to prepare the smaller ones.
- Let an **older child or adult** play these parts:

Narrator. Summarize the story and help actors to remember what to do.

Farmer. Prepare seeds or small stones that represent seeds.

Thorn.

- Let **smaller children** play the parts of **Birds, Wheat plants, and Choked Plant.**

Narrator: Tell the first part of the story, from Matthew 13:3-9. Then say, “See what happens when the seed falls on the roadway.”

Farmer: Sow (throw) a small handful of seeds.

Birds: Hop over to where the seeds are, flapping your arms like wings. Then pick up a few of the seeds and pretend to eat them. (Do not really put them into your mouth.)

Narrator: “See what happens when the seeds fall on rocks.”

Farmer: Sow more seeds.

Wheat plants: Stand for a moment where the seeds fell, holding your arms out. Then look up at the hot sun, shield your eyes with your hands and slowly fall to the ground.

Narrator: “See what happens when the seed falls among thorns.”

Farmer: Sow more seeds.

Choked Plant: Stand where the seeds fell, holding your arms out.

Thorn: Sneak up behind the Wheat plant, walking on tiptoes. Then laugh in an evil way very loudly and suddenly put your fingers around his throat and pretend to choke him.

Choked Plant: Put your hands to your throat, let your tongue hang out, and then fall.

Narrator: “See what happens when the seed falls in good soil.”

Farmer: Sow more seeds.

Wheat plants: Stand proudly where the seeds fell, holding your arms up towards heaven.

Farmer: “Look! The seeds reproduced a hundred times! Praise God for a great harvest!”

Narrator: Tell the second part of the story, from Matthew 13:18-23.

Then, thank everyone who helped with the drama.

Questions

If the children present the story to the adults, then let the children ask the adults the questions from page 1.

Let the children draw a picture of a seed sprouting. Let them show their pictures to the adults during worship and explain that God's Word is like a seed that takes root in our hearts, grows and bears good fruit.