

Children's Church - Sunday, July 12, 2020

The Good Seed



Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+11&version=ICB>

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Large crowds gathered around him. So Jesus got into a boat and sat, while the people stayed on the shore. Then Jesus used stories to teach them many things. He said: ‘A farmer went out to plant his seed. While he was planting, some seed fell by the road. The birds came and ate all that seed. Some seed fell on rocky ground, where there wasn’t enough dirt. That seed grew very fast, because the ground was not deep. But when the sun rose, the plants dried up because they did not have deep roots. Some other seed fell among thorny weeds. The weeds grew and choked the good plants. Some other seed fell on good ground where it grew and became grain. Some plants made 100 times more grain. Other plants made 60 times more grain, and some made 30 times more grain. Let those with ears use them and listen!’

“So listen to the meaning of that story about the farmer. What is the seed that fell by the road? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching about the kingdom but does not understand it. The Evil One comes and takes away the things that were planted in that person’s heart. And what is the seed that fell on rocky ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and quickly accepts it with joy. But he does not let the teaching go deep into his life. He keeps it only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the teaching he accepted, then he quickly gives up. And what is the seed that fell among the thorny weeds? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching but lets worries about this life and love of money stop that teaching from growing. So the teaching does not produce fruit in that person’s life. But what is the

seed that fell on the good ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and understands it. That person grows and produces fruit, sometimes 100 times more, sometimes 60 times more, and sometimes 30 times more.”

Discussion:

- Sometimes, we are like each of the seeds in the story. How can you be like the “good seed that produces fruit”? How can you let Jesus’ love into your heart this week while spreading it to others?
- What is your prayer this week?

Watch: The 1973 movie version of the musical, “Godspell,” and their interpretation of the Parable of the Sower: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BLUKQB3kzI> and the song that comes after it, “All Good Gifts”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mURti-s0jc>

Activity: Can you, as a family, plant some seeds this week to watch them grow? What kind of soil do you think you will need? What else do you need to watch them grow?

If planting seeds may not be an option, you can always draw flowers that start from seeds! A sunflower is a great one for this exercise. On each of the petals, write one way you can “grow with Jesus”!

