

Planting for a Harvest

revised

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Based on the Parable: The Sower and the Seed
Luke 8:1-15 and Christ Object Lessons chapter 1

Scene: A farmer plants his seeds

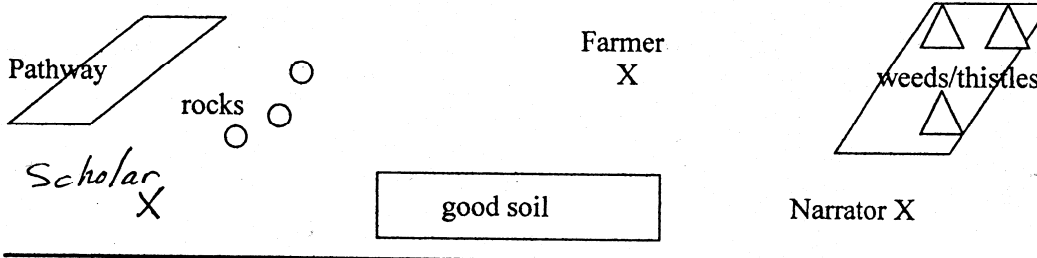
Characters:

Narrator
Farmer
Scholar
1st Seeds
2nd Seeds
3rd Seeds
4th Seeds
Pathway
Stony Soil
Weed #1 Worry Weed
Weed # 2 Rich Thistle
Weed # 3 Pleasure Weed
Fertile Soil

Additional Actors (not speakers):

Rocks
Thistles & Weeds
Birds
1st Seeds (could be same as 4th seeds)
2nd Seeds
3rd Seeds
4th Seeds
Pathway

Stage Set up:



Pathway *(Actors in a line holding a long banner that says "pathway" or individual papers spelling out P-A-T-H-W-A-Y)*

Stony Soil *(Actors sit and hold individual papers that say STONY SOIL)*

Weeds *(Actors sit with one hand holding poster and other hand with fingers pointing out like thorns. Weed 1 dressed in gray, poster says WORRY WEED; Weed 2 dressed in gold, poster says RICH THISTLE; Weed 3 dressed in bright red and other bright colors, poster says PLEASURE WEED.)*

Narrator Once upon a time there was a farmer

Scholar ...who represents Christ...

Narrator ...who went out...

Scholar ...out of his warm comfortable house; out of the safe haven of the city...

Narrator ... sowing seeds...

Scholar ...which are the seeds of truth; the Word of God...

Narrator ...on the ground

Scholar ...which represents you and I and the receptiveness of our hearts

Farmer What a great day to plant my seeds. *(Lifts out some seeds from pouch, so the audience can see them, and lets them slide through his fingers back into pouch.)*

Narrator He was a very ... umm ...generous ... farmer liberally throwing seeds with abandon....

Farmer Here a seed! There a seed! Everywhere a seed, seed! *(He makes motion as if tossing seeds on the ground every which way – on the pathway, stony soil, weed patch, and fertile soil.)*

Seeds *(Actors tumble onto the ground – 1st Seeds to the pathway, 2nd Seeds to the Stony Soil; 3rd Seeds to the Weed Patch; 4th Seeds to the Fertile Soil – then sit still)*

1st Seeds Ugh!

Narrator Look where you threw your seeds!

Farmer I threw some on the path.

Scholar ...which represents those with hard hearts, downtrodden with the world's traffic of pleasures and sin...

Pathway We don't need seeds! We are important for commerce! We are going places!

Farmer Yes, I threw seeds on the path. Do you think they'll grow there?

Narrator Nope! They'll just lie there until the birds come and eat them.

1st Seeds Birds?

Scholar Yes, Birds, which represent Satan and his helpers who will not allow God's Word to stay on the path for fear it may find a place to grow.

Birds *(Dressed in black; run with arms extended as if swooping down; pick up 1st seeds or take them by the hand and leave)*

Farmer Hmm. *(Looks very disappointed and sad; then turns to look at stony soil.)* Look over there! *(Points to shallow, stony soil)*

Stony Soil We've got seed!

2nd Seeds A Ha! It's warm. I'll put out some roots. *(Stretches out legs and arms.)* Here I grow!

Narrator The seeds that fell on the shallow stony soil...

Scholar ... which represents those who have good aspirations, but their religion is superficial. They do not rely on Jesus, the Living Water ...

Farmer ... They are growing! ... *(Joy turns to disappointment)* ... oh ... are wilting.

Stony Soil Ooo I have roots pushing on my hard places. I mean rocks. Ouch!

2nd Seeds Water! Water! *(Mimic dying of thirst. Wilt. Arms, legs and head become floppy instead of rigid; flop over and lie down)*

Farmer *(Look of disappointment and dismay!)* Oh no! *(Turns towards Weed Patch)* Something is growing here!

3rd Seeds & Weeds Yes! *(Grow. Stretch out arms and legs.)*

Narrator It looks like many things are growing!

Weeds This is our patch! *(poke 3rd Seeds)*

3rd Seeds Some space please! We have plans for a great harvest!

Weed 1 If you stay here... What shall I eat? What shall I drink? What shall I wear? There is no room for you! *(mimics choking seeds)*

Weed 2 This is our patch! Our place to grow! I must pursue all the richness here! There is no room for you! *(mimics choking seeds)*

Weed 3 I'm having so much fun! This is my time to grow! No need for work and harvest. There is no room for you! (*mimics choking seeds*)

3rd Seeds Ouch! (*Open mouth and shrink to ground*)

Narrator The weeds have choked the plants!

Scholar They are choked by life's worries, riches, pleasures, and lusts of other things.

Farmer Stop! What shall I do? What can I do? (*Raises arms up and out like Jesus on the cross*)

Narrator Look! There is hope. See over there! (*Points to fertile ground*)

Farmer (*Looks toward fertile soil*) Some seed fell on fertile soil!

Scholar The good soil stands for those with a humble heart, who hear the Word of God, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

4th Seeds Ah! (*Grow. Stretch out as though sunbathing.*) What a great spot. Waiter? I'll have a large water with a twist of fertilizer, please.

Fertile Soil God is doing a great work in us! Growing seeds is fun! Soon we'll be dressed as a field in green, producing a magnificent crop!

Farmer The seeds of truth, found in the Word of God, are still being sown here and there.

Narrator Will they find ready fertile soil?

1st Seeds Do not harden your heart, giving opportunity for God's Word to be snatched away.

2nd Seeds Unlike the shallow soil, let God transform you, making you all that he wants you to be.

3rd Seeds Do not be choked by worry. Do not seek after riches or pleasure. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Scholar Are you humbly accepting God's Word into your life and letting it take root and grow?

Farmer I can't wait for harvest time!

Singers

(Sing Grow, Grow, Grow: Start small in a ball and then grow to stand tall with arms outstretched.) Read your Bible, pray every day, pray every day, pray every day. Read your Bible pray every day and you'll grow, grow, grow. And you'll grow, grow, grow. And you'll grow, grow, grow. Read your Bible pray every day and you'll grow, grow, grow.

Singers

(Sing 2nd verse of Grow, Grow, Grow; Start tall and then shrink down to the ground in a ball) Neglect your Bible, forget to pray, forget to pray, forget to pray. Neglect your Bible, forget to pray and you'll shrink, shrink, shrink. And you'll shrink, shrink, shrink. And you'll shrink, shrink, shrink. Neglect your Bible, forget to pray, and you'll shrink, shrink, shrink.