

Learn of Me

NEW TESTAMENT

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13, Luke 8

Activity 1: Developing Good Soil

Materials: Styrofoam cups, potting soil, seeds of your choice (better if they are seeds that will sprout quickly)

Instructions:

1. Share the parable of the sower. Explain how the good soil is created by good actions and righteous traits. Ask the family what traits would create “good soil” in our hearts. Suggestions might be: kindness, humility, charity, forgiveness, etc. Explain that our hearts can be full of good soil when we develop these traits.
2. Have family members choose a trait to work on this week that will help them to work on having good soil. Ask them to write down some of the ways that they will further develop that trait. (I.e. “Kindness”-be kind to my siblings, share my toys, reach out to someone who doesn’t have many friends, leave positive comments on people’s social media posts).
3. Give family members a cup and have them write the specific trait they are wanting to work on this week on the outside, as a reminder. Fill the cup with potting soil and plant the seed. Water the seed and watch it sprout, checking the next week with family members to see how they did developing the trait.

Activity 2: Soil Experiment

Materials: Potting soil, small pebbles, medium sized rocks, three flower pots, seeds of your choice.

Instructions:

1. Share the parable of the sower.
2. Talk about the different kinds of soil discussed in the parable as you show family members the three kinds of potting materials.
3. Have family members give examples of traits that would create each kind of ground in a person’s heart.
 1. Potting soil: charity, kindness, honesty, courage

2. Pebbles: half-truths,
3. Rocks: lying, selfishness,
4. Tell everyone that you will be doing an experiment this week to see which soil the seeds will grow better in. Fill a pot with each of the types of soil. Write on the outside the traits that go with that type of soil. Plant the seeds and watch to see which soil they grow best in.