



Parable of the Seeds & the Soils  
31.02.21

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## NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was *the Parable of the Seeds and the Soils*.

Using this parent info sheet at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your child will help them to get the most out of the episode. You might choose to do it in one sitting, or you might need a few sessions over the week to get through it; you can pace yourself through it as you choose. Even if you did not lead your child through the whole discussion; reading through it yourself will PREPARE YOU well to: use what you feel would be most valuable for you and your family; help you facilitate discussion; and answer some of the big questions that kids ask. 😊

The *Main Ideas* section has been designed especially for you, to enter into meaningful *Discussion* with your child; to guide you in what you can *Say* and *Ask*, to actively build faith and wisdom into them. Points and questions build on one another, so there is great value in leading your child through it. We have added a next level which is highlighted - skip it if you feel it is too much for your child's developmental level. The lesson will still progress well if you skip the **highlighted areas**. To help your child really share what's in their heart and mind, when it comes to *Ask* points, take care to not rush them... give them time to really think and respond. Really show them you are listening and understanding. We've also added *Life Application* points, a *Sum Up* point, and sample *Prayer*.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at [luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church](mailto:luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church) God bless you!



## Family Ice Breaker - 'Scoop it up' Game

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we watched as Joshua used a stick of raw spaghetti (in his mouth - no hands) to scoop up 5 pieces of penne in 1 minute. *You might like to do this at home.*

You could do as we did and use pasta, or you could use whatever else you have around the house; like straws or chopsticks, with cheezels or costume jewelry rings.

You might like to thread beads on to string using only 1 hand, or thread shoelace in a shoe using only one hand. It is harder than it sounds. Whatever you do, have fun!



## THIS WEEK - read through SCRIPTURE together.

The Parable of the Seeds and the Soils are in Mark 4:1-20, Luke 8:4-15, and Matthew 13:1-23.

### Scripture Memory Verses - to read & memorise at meal times

[ use any version you like; we have used a combination of versions/translations/paraphrases to help your child best understand the meaning of the passages and apply it to their lives NOW ]

#### Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right *and* steadfast spirit within me.

#### Proverbs 4:23

Watch over and guard your heart with all diligence, because all that you do flows from it.

#### John 14:26

But the Helper, Who is the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you.

#### Matthew 6:34

But first *and* most importantly seek His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things that your Heavenly Father knows you need will be given to you also.

#### Lamentations 3:22-23

The love of the LORD never fails, and never ends; His mercies never come to an end, there are new mercies every morning.



## The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Discussion introduction:

**Ask:** Have you ever thought about who you are going to be? Not what job you're going to have when you get older, but what type of person you are going to be right now - today. This has to do with character. Who will you be?

**Ask:** When people get to know you, how you like them to think of you, and remember you? [ *this has to do with character and conduct, fruits* ]

**Ask:** Are they going to remember you being kind or mean? [ *No!* ]

**Ask:** Are they going to remember you being wise or foolish? [ *No!* ]

**Ask:** Are you going to be remembered for being really positive and full of faith? [ *No!* ]

**Ask:** Or will you be the kid that was always complaining and never had anything good to say? [ *No!* ]

**Say:** The type of person you are on the outside is going to be because of who you are on the inside. And, the type of person you are on the inside is going to depend on what you believe, who you believe in, and what kind of believer you are.

**Ask:** So, what and who is on the inside of you, in your heart and mind? [ *Jesus, faith in Jesus, love, knowledge of the Word of God, etc.* ]

**Ask:** How we receive God's Word has to do with the condition of our heart. Are you going to be a dedicated Jesus follower that hears His words and puts them into practice, or are you going to hear God's word and not do much with it?

### Unpacking the WORD – going deeper

**Say:** In our Kidmania episode today we learned about a parable.

**Ask:** Do you remember what a parable is? [ *A parable is a story with a deeper meaning underneath. It's meaning will not be known by those who are not seeking the truth. Jesus needed to explain it to his disciples.* ]

**Say:** A parable is a story with a deeper, spiritual meaning underneath. If you just listen to the story and take it literally (on face value) then it might seem to be about just that thing, or not make sense at all. It's meaning will not be known by those who are not seeking the truth. It's like a secret code that you need the Holy Spirit to help you to decode it and find the secret message. The disciples needed Jesus to help them to understand it, and because they were really wanting to understand the truth, He helped them to understand it, and because we are reading Jesus' explanation as well, we get to understand it.

**Ask:** Do you remember what the parable was? [ *The parable of the Seeds and the Soils. Sometimes it is called the parable of the Sower.* ]

**Say:** Let's remember the code together.

**Ask:** Who is the FARMER?

**Say:** The FARMER is Jesus.

**Ask:** What is the SEED?

**Say:** The SEED is God's Word, which we can find in the Bible. There is nothing wrong with the seed. It is ALWAYS perfect. It will grow big and strong, and produce more seed if it is in the right soil.

**Ask:** What is the SOIL?

**Say:** The SOIL (the ground that the seed falls on) is the heart of the hearer.





...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

**Say:** Just as in this farmer's field there were many types of soil/ground, there are many types of hearts of people who are hearing God's Word. That's why people have different responses and reactions to the Bible. Every person in the crowd who were listening to Jesus had their own heart. Some hearts were soft, and some hearts were hard, and some were hard and rocky.

**Ask:** Ps Luke gave us 5 things to remember about God's seed in our heart. Can you remember what they were? [ 1. Let God prepare your heart, 2. Guard your heart, 3. Don't let the devil steal the seed, 4. Don't give up following Jesus when it becomes hard, and 5. Don't worry about all the things you don't have. Life is more important than having lots of stuff. ]

**Say:** 1. Let God prepare your heart

**Say:** Even though God's word is a perfect seed it will only grow healthily if our heart (the soil) is ready. Sometimes our hearts need some work. We can start by praying and asking God to help us soften it and be ready.

**Say:** We can pray as King David did, in:

**Psalm 51:10:** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**Ask:** How is your heart, as you hear God's message? Soft/hard/rocky? Why?

[ If your child is upset or angry or confused about something that is making it hard for their heart to be soft towards God and His teaching then stop and pray for them before continuing. You might need to help them work through the issue and feel heard and loved before you continue. In any case, it is always a good idea to pray, as we read and speak about God's Word, that any obstacles (things that might make it hard) would be moved out of the way so that we would have soft and open hearts toward God and His Word. ]

**Say:** 2. Guard your heart

**Say:** God encourages us to guard our heart. In **Proverbs 4:23** it says: **Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.**

**Ask:** What do you think this Scripture means?

**Say:** That's how we can protect the seed that God places in our heart - let the good seed in (more of God's word) and don't let the bad stuff in (the negative words of people who don't believe in Jesus). Everything you do will reflect/show what your heart attitude is. What is in your heart will determine/decide what you do next. Good in = good out. Junk in = junk out.

**Say:** 3. Don't let the devil steal the seed!

**Say:** In the parable we learned straight from Jesus that when God's Word is spoken to you and you do not understand it, the devil steals the seed.

**Ask:** is it our fault if the devil steals the seed, just because we don't understand something?

**Say:** We won't always understand everything straight away. It's not our fault if we don't understand something, but it will be our fault if we give up trying to understand. We can ask an adult to help us understand.

**Ask:** Have you ever had trouble understanding something, and after praying and asking for some help from a leader or adult, begun to understand it?

**If YES, ask:** Can you tell me about it? How did you feel when you began to understand? Were you glad you kept trying?

**Say:** When Jesus' disciples didn't understand what Jesus was saying straight away, they asked Him to explain it to them. We can do that too, we can ask Jesus to explain things to us, by His Holy Spirit.





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

**Scripture: John 14:26**

In **John 14:26** Jesus said, **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom I will ask the Father to send, will teach you all things and help you remember all that I have said to you.**

**Say:** Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to help you to remember and understand His words, and He has given you leaders and parents to help you understand too. You do your best, and God will help you. When we keep trying to understand God's word we stop the devil from stealing the seed away.

**Say: 4. Don't Give up following Jesus when it becomes hard.**

**Say:** There are so many (good things) benefits to following Jesus. But sometimes it can be hard. Sometimes people won't understand you, sometimes people will make fun of you because you are different, and they don't follow Jesus like you.

**Ask:** Have you ever experienced something like that?

**If YES, Ask:** Can you tell me about it?

*[ Kidmania leaders; you may need to let the Oversight Leader know if a child discloses serious, unaddressed and ongoing bullying, whether from other kids, or adults. If a child begins to disclose something in a group that you think is not appropriate to be shared, then gently stop the child telling their story with validation, and let them know that you are very concerned for them and care for them and that you would like to continue this conversation with them at the end of the group, and then move the discussion on with the re-affirm. ]*

**(re-affirm) Say:** People who don't believe in Jesus and the Bible and who don't like you (because you love and follow Jesus, and not them) are not more right than you are, and they are definitely not cool; there's nothing cool about being wrong about Jesus. And, being mean to you is not cool.

**(bring perspective) Say:** The Bible tells us that the wisdom of God seems like foolishness to those who don't know Him and who are already on their way to hell. Isn't that sad?

**(validate) Say:** What they have done to you is not right and it is very hurtful. God sees it and He doesn't like it either.

**(advise) Say:** Sometimes we need to get some adults involved too. Being loving to a person who is being mean to you doesn't mean we need to let it keep happening. We might need to spend less time with them, and not be with them without some other kinder people around too.

**(resolve) Say:** We always need to choose to forgive them for what they are doing, knowing they don't understand, and pray that they come to know Jesus, as we continue to love and follow Jesus. Would you like to forgive them, and ask God to help them?

**(pray) Say:** Heavenly Father, we know that you have seen all of what has happened and you are sad about it too. Please heal the hurt that is within our hearts over these things. We know You understand because as they reject and hurt us they really reject and hurt you. God, help us to keep our hearts soft towards you and them, forgiving them. Help us to have the courage to be proud of You and Your Word. Help us to know what to do and how to speak with these people, and to remember to pray for them because they really need you, Father God, and they really need to know Jesus, so they can be their best selves, and come to Heaven too. We thank You that You love us, and that You hear us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Ask:** When you feel like giving up because it's becoming hard, will you guard the seed (counting it as true) and continue to follow Jesus and His teachings?





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

**Life Application Point:**

**If YES, Ask:** How will you do this?

**Say:** This is the HOW TO (the what to do/actions) of guarding our heart:

- \* Keep reading the Word (the Bible) - and stay interested.
- \* Keep praying for Wisdom and understanding from God
- \* Ask someone wiser (parent/teacher/leader etc.) to help you to understand the Bible and situations in life
- \* Keep doing the right thing (what the Word/Bible teaches)
- \* Keep forgiving other people
- \* Keep repenting (recognising when you are wrong, changing direction to now do what is pleasing to God, and being forgiven)
- \* Keep loving God more than anything else and anyone else
- \* Choose to not be ashamed of Jesus and His ways when other people don't agree with you and even make fun of you

**Say:** God really wants to encourage you to not give up. In *Galatians 6:9* says "Don't grow tired of doing what is good because at just the right time you will enjoy loads of blessings - if you don't give up."

**Ask:** Will we give up? [ NO! ]

**Say:** 5. Don't Worry about all the things you don't have. Life is more than having lots of stuff.

**Say:** Jesus said, in *Matthew 6:25*: Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life; what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body and what you will wear. Isn't life more important than food, and your body more important than clothes?

**Say:** And in *Matthew 6:31-34* He said: "So do not worry saying, 'What shall we eat?' Or 'What shall we wear?' For those that do not believe run after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

**Say:** God doesn't want us to be busy worrying. He wants us to trust Him with all that we need. While we do our best with what we should do, He will bless us.

**Ask:** Will you trust God with what you need?

**Say:** God doesn't want us to give up following Him. And, He doesn't want us to hide His goodness by keeping it all to ourselves. That's not what good a seed in good soil does. It grows. The work God has done in our hearts He wants to do in other people's hearts and he wants us to help him. Our words and actions to be used to help Him. That's how the seed we are given multiplies!

**Ask:** Would you like for God to help you to multiply your seed and use you to reach others for Him?

**If YES, say:** You know, God is always paying attention to us and He just heard that. I believe that as you keep inviting Him to use You, He will, and He will help you to serve Him.

**Say:** Maybe as you were watching the Kidmania Online episode today you felt like you were like the seeds that were choked up by worry, or maybe you felt like you are like the person who would easily give up when things get tough, or if it wasn't popular to follow Jesus. If that's you, I don't want you to get discouraged because there is always a new and fresh start available through Jesus. We only need to ask Him to help us.





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

**Say:** In *Lamentations 3:22-23* it says, **The love of the LORD never fails, and never ends; His mercies never come to an end; there are new mercies every morning.**

**Say:** So, whatever has already happened... Let's not dwell on the past. God is doing a new thing now. If we would come close to God, God will come close to us.

### Sum Up:

**Say: Repeat after me:**

- \* I will let God prepare my heart!
- \* I will guard my heart!
- \* I will not let the devil steal my seed!
- \* I won't give up following Jesus when it becomes hard!
- \* I won't worry about all the things I don't have!
- \* I will seek the Kingdom and His Righteousness FIRST!

### Let's Pray!

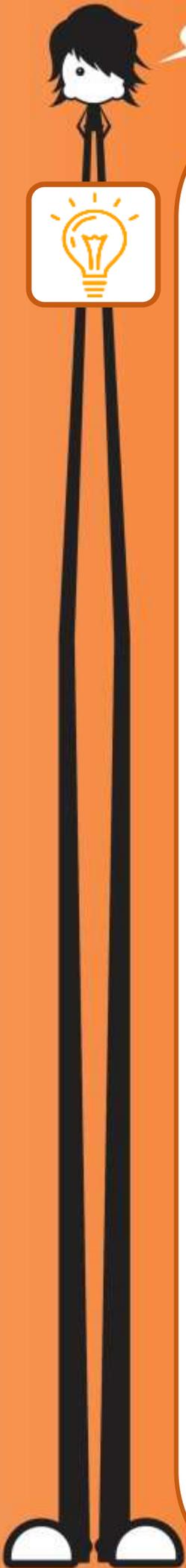
Thank You Father God that Jesus planted His seed in me so that I could believe. Please help me to keep my heart soft and teachable, and right with You. Please heal my heart and help me to guard my heart, so that I keep my faith and trust in You. I want to do great things with You in Your Kingdom.

In Jesus' Name,  
Amen!

### A PICTURE paints a thousand words!

[ You might like to ask your child to use this space to draw a picture that tells you what they have learned today ]





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Just for Fun!

The Parable of the Seeds and the Soils Quiz

[ answers are underlined ]

1. The type of person you are on the outside is going to be because of....

- A. what you had for breakfast
- B. who you are on the inside
- C. what shows up on your X-ray
- D. which side of the bed you woke up on

2. A parable is....

- A. a type of table
- B. a gymnastics trick
- C. a secret message written in invisible ink
- D. a story with a deeper meaning

3. In the parable of the Seed and the Sower, the Seed is....

- A. good
- B. bad
- C. God's word
- D. A and C

4. In the parable of the Seed and the Sower, the Ground is....

- A. our garden
- B. our school yard
- C. our heads
- D. our hearts

5. The devil snatches the seed away when....

- A. we hide it in the pantry
- B. we don't understand it
- C. he feels like it
- D. we trade it for lollies

6. God encourages us to guard our heart because....

- A. it's made of gold
- B. it pumps juice through our body
- C. everything in life comes from it
- D. it's hard to find a spare one

7. God wants our hearts to be like soft soil so....

- A. God's Word can sink in easily
- B. we can grow and become more like Jesus
- C. so we can grow and tell more people about Jesus
- D. All of the above