

THEME: SYMBOLS OF THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON #5: SEED SOWN THAT LASTS

LESSON SCRIPTURES: 1 Pet. 1:23; Luke 8:5-15

MAIN EMPHASIS: The word of God is a living seed that grows and lasts when sown in the heart that is pure.

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 2:7 (NLT)

“Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught...”

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES: At the end of the session, the students should be able to:

1. Understand how the word of God is like a seed;
2. Identify the significance of the word of God to Christians, especially to new converts;
3. Determine the benefit of studying the Bible as seed sown in the heart;
4. Understand the effects of having insufficiency of God’s word or the lack of it;
5. Purpose in their hearts the necessity of studying God’s word; and
6. Understand and recite the given memory verse.

CLEARING OF DIFFICULTIES:

- Seed – the small, hard part of a plant from which a new plant grows; *pertains to the word of God (based on the parable)*
- Parable – a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels.
- Sower – a person who plants seed.
- Soil/Ground - the upper layer of earth in which plants grow; the solid surface of the earth; *pertains to the heart of the hearer (based on the parable)*

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITY: KNOWING THE SEEDS IN OUR FOODS

1. Let the kids describe where they think the seeds are in the apple, in the tomato, in the green pepper, and so forth.
2. Let them tell how many seeds are there on each fruit/food.
3. Let them tell where the seeds are found in each of the fruit/food.

Present a video of a growing seed (time-lapse) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w77zPAtVTul>

INTRODUCTION:

It has been said that a parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. The Lord Jesus frequently used parables as a means of illustrating profound, divine truths. Stories such as these are easily remembered and the symbolisms are rich in meaning.

LESSON PROPER: LUKE 8:5-15

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus uses **seed** (pertaining to the word of God) and the image of various kinds of **soils/grounds** to contrast different heart responses to the word of God:

Soil/Ground	Physical meaning	Spiritual truth
Path/Hard ground	Prevents the seed from sprouting at all, and the seed becomes nothing more than bird food	Represents someone who is hardened by sin; he hears but does not understand the Word, and Satan snatches the message away.
Rocky places/ Stony ground	Provides enough soil for the seeds to begin to grow, but because the ground is not deep, there is no root and the plants soon dry up in the sun	Pictures a man who professes delight with the Word; however, his heart is not changed, and when trouble arises, his so-called faith quickly disappears
Thorns	Allows the seed to grow, but the competing thorns choke the life out of the growing plants	Depicts one who seems to receive the Word, but his heart is full of riches, pleasures, and lusts; these worldly things take his time and attention away from the Word, and he ends up having no time for it
Good soil	Receives the seed and produces much fruit	Portrays the one who hears, understands, and receives the Word—and then allows the Word to accomplish its result in his life

LIFE APPLICATION:

Jesus's point in this parable is that how we receive the word of God is primarily determined by the condition of our hearts then later on seen on our actions taken after receiving it and becomes part of our lives. We must desire for ourselves God’s word, study and apply, with God’s help, so we can see how God can do mighty works in us if we just continue putting our hearts on Him and the things concerning Him.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY:

EVALUATION:

SEVEN SYMBOLS USED TO ILLUSTRATE THE WORD OF GOD

1. **A SWORD:** The bible is a pointed word that convicts the hearer. Heb.4:12.
2. **A HAMMER:** The bible is powerful and breaks the resistance of the hearer. Jer.23:29.
3. **A SEED:** The bible is a living word regenerating the hearer. I Per.1:23.
4. **A MIRROR:** The bible is a faithful word, revealing the individual to himself. James 1:23-25.
5. **A FIRE:** The bible is a burning word, consuming the dross in the hearer. Jer.20:9, 23:29.
6. **A LAMP:** The bible is an illuminating word guiding the believer day by day. Ps.119:105.
7. **FOOD:** The bible is nourishing food, feeding the soul. I Pet.2:2, Heb.5:12-14, ICor.3:2, Rom.10:17.

Certainly, the word of God convicts, breaks, regenerates, reveals, consumes, illuminates and nourishes the individual.