

## The Sower and the Seeds Parable



Jesus had gone out and sat by the lake by himself. Soon, such large crowds gathered around Him that He got into a boat near the shore and people stood on the land to hear him. Then he began to tell them a story.



A farmer went out to plant his garden. As he was throwing the seed on the ground, some fell on the hard path nearby and the birds came and ate them.



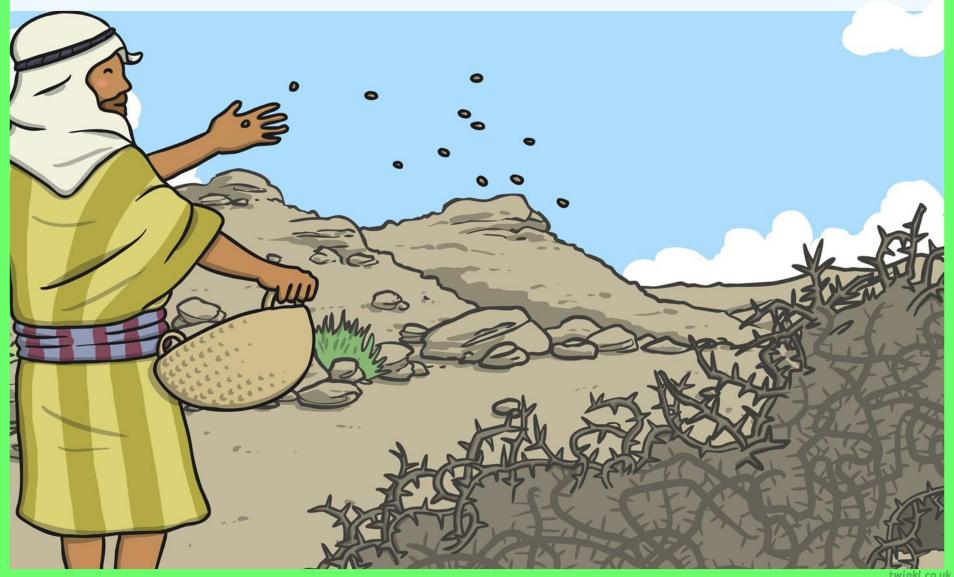
The next seeds fell near some rocks the farmer had in a pile nearby. There was not much dirt around the rocks so the seeds started to sprout and grow the next day. When seeds aren't planted in the dirt, they don't grow roots which help them stay strong and wet, which help them grow properly.



So in the afternoon when the sun was very hot, the little plants that started to grow among the rocks withered away and died because they had no root in the ground.



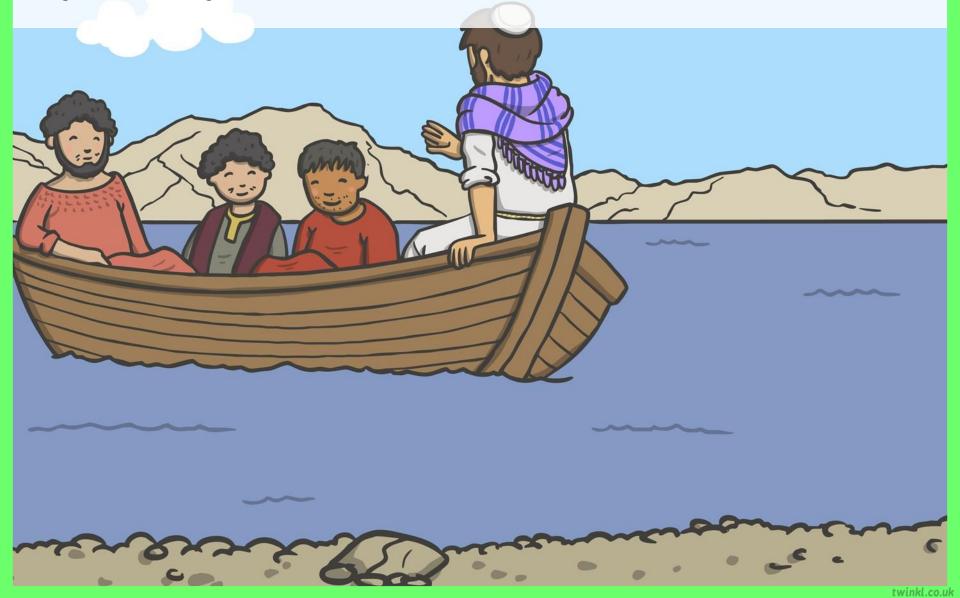
As the farmer continued to throw seeds onto the ground, some of the seeds fell among the weeds and thorns that he hadn't pulled out. The thorns grew faster and taller than the seeds, so the seeds couldn't get enough sunlight and were choked out by the thorns.



Finally, some seed fell on the good soil that the farmer had worked and dug holes for the seed to go into. Those seeds made plants and those plants produced lots and lots of vegetables.



Jesus said, "When people teach you things, they are planting a pretend seed in your mind. The seed is a lesson and as you learn more, the seed grows and gets bigger and you eventually will know lots about God and be able to tell others about Him."



"If you don't ask when you don't understand, you will forget what you learned and it will be like the seeds that fell on the path that were eaten by the birds. You will forget and the seed will be gone from your mind and it won't grow."



"If you don't learn more, the pretend seed in your mind won't grow and it will be like the seed that fell on the rocks. It grew only for a short time and then it died."



"The next seed is the one that was choked out by the thorns. This can happen when you hear a lesson about God and then you start to worry about all kinds of things. By worrying, you will choke out the pretend seed in your mind. Pray to God instead of worrying!"



"The last seed is the best, it fell on the good ground. If you learn from what you hear, the seed in your mind will grow. You will be able to tell others about what you've learnt."





## The End