

**St. Mary's Anglican Church, Regina**

**Story: The Parable of the Sower**

**Workshop: Daily Bread Bistro**

**Purpose:** The students will learn why some people follow Jesus and others don't. Why is it important to listen to the Word of God? Through Bible reading and discussion, the students will learn to define a parable. They will retell the parable of the sower in their own words and be able to explain that Jesus told parables to help us understand more about the Kingdom of God.

**Preparation:** Read the background information to the lesson.  
Bible study on the passage: Luke 8: 4-21

**Materials:** Bibles, Journals  
Plastic Cups  
Milk  
Instant Chocolate Pudding  
Cool Whip  
Chocolate Cookies, crushed  
Gummy Worms

**Advanced Prep:** Have all of the ingredients out and ready to use. This recipe makes 8-10 7 ounce cups. Based on your class size, decide whether you should double the recipe.

**Presentation:** Welcome the children and introduce yourself. Tell the children that they will be learning about the Parable of the Sower. As they will be making "Dirt Cups" in the kitchen, they will do that first, allowing the Dirt Cups to set while they do their Bible Study. At the close of their lesson they will eat their Dirt Cups.

**Dirt Cups:** 2 cups cold milk  
1 pkg Jello Instant Pudding  
1 tub Cool Whip thawed  
1 pkg crushed chocolate cookies  
gummy worms

Instructions: Pour milk into large bowl, add Jello pudding mix.  
Beat until well blended. Let sit 5 minutes.  
Stir in Cool Whip and ½ the cookies  
Place 1 Tbl. Cookies into cups. Fill cups ¾ full with pudding mixture. Top with remaining cookies. Refrigerate until after your lesson.

**Opening Prayer:** Gracious God, Help us to have listening ears and open hearts as we hear Your story. Amen

**Memory Verse:** Luke 8: 8b “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**Bible Passage:** Luke 8: 4-8

Have the students locate the story in the Bible and follow along as they take turns reading it.

**Discussion:**

1. What is the seed?
  - *The seed is God’s message of forgiveness/salvation/love. Don’t assume the children know what you mean if you say “word=seed” Spend time talking about WHAT grows inside of us-this knowledge of God’s great thing which he has done for us.*
  
2. What is this story about? Have them retell it.
  - *The Word of God is like the seed in the story. Some hear His Word and believe and live a faith filled life. Others hear His Word but ignore it.*
  
3. Why do you think some people have stronger faith than others?
  - *They open themselves to God’s Word. Their faith has been nurtured.*
  
4. How can we have stronger faith? Listen to God’s Word.
  - *Ask God to help us with our faith. Turn to God in our daily lives. Go to Sunday School. Read the Bible. Practice, practice, practice!*
  
5. Why did some people follow Jesus and others didn’t?
  - *Some believed Jesus and others didn’t.*
  
6. What is a parable?
  - *A parable is a story that teaches a lesson by comparing things.*

**Reflection:** In their journals the children should answer the question: “What is a seed in the Parable of the Sower?”

**Closing Prayer:** Thank You God for these gifts we receive. May we use them to Your Glory. Amen.

Following the closing prayer the students may eat their Dirt Cups and then clean up.