

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd15x2017

Text: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!"

10 Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" 11 He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 13 The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.' 14 With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: 'You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. 15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.' 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. 17 Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.

18 "Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Word - I/S, Eye - I, Math - I, Music - I/S, Nature - I/S, People - I/S, Self - S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
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<p>Word - Verbal/Linguistic</p> <p>MWD</p>	<p>vs. 9 - anyone with ears, listen</p> <p>vs. 19 - hear then...</p>	<p>parable = Gulliver's Travels, Rip van Winkle, Tom Joad, Willy Lowman</p> <p>literary characters that stand in for broader cultural or social issues</p> <p>Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears Verna Aardema</p>	<p>The parable without its interpretation, if it were just told to folks in Galilee, would sound more descriptive than instructive. It doesn't sound like it has any spiritual significance or deeper meaning. A guy went to work, did his job, and some of his efforts paid off and some didn't. Big deal.</p> <p>Construct a description of a common work day for people in your community, like a factory worker, an insurance agent, a fast-food worker, a banker, or whatever, but include elements that could be similar in function to the seed as interpreted in the parable.</p> <p>Example: An insurance agent wanted to sell life insurance. Some couldn't afford enough to make it worth it. Some let their policies lapse. Some were too busy to listen to the agent's sales pitch and never bought any. But some bought policies that provided abundantly for their families when they died.</p> <p>See? There is nothing there about the Kingdom of God. Unless there is.</p> <p>See also People, Self</p>
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>	<p>parable as art</p>	<p>Van Gogh's The Sower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •yellow = faith, triumph, love •blue = the divine 	

<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>	<p>this parable raises questions about efficiency and effectiveness</p> <p>sometimes, the parables are difficult to understand because they are counter-intuitive</p>	<p>Vs. 4- 8 this is an illogical use of seed for modern agriculture</p> <p>⇨ IBM chairman Tom Watson, 'If you want to succeed, double your failure rate' <i><u>Sacred Cows Make the Best Burgers</u></i>, Robert Kriegel and David Brandt</p>	
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p>			
<p>Musical D2</p>	<p>profligate sowing</p>	<p><i><u>Freely Freely</u></i> by Carol Owens</p>	<p>Take your pick of these songs about the sower. Choose wisely. Some are better than others.</p>
<p>Natural</p>	<p>tossing the seeds willy nilly - totally inefficient way to sow a field</p>	<p>⇨ dandelions, cottonwoods, maple trees, mimosa trees, walnut trees, thistles - extremely inefficient ways to sow seeds but these plants pop up EVERYWHERE</p> <p>also, birds are terrific sowers AND were fed by the errant seeds</p> <p>A video of a gospel quartet(with delusions of grandeur) singing about this parable, which you might think should be in Music, but what was interesting to me was the vid shows some folks, mostly youth, apparently demonstrating or experiencing ancient farming techniques of clearing, breaking, and preparing a field, and sowing seed. Oddly, these are shown pretty much in reverse order.</p>	<p>Bring in seeds, seedlings, and full grown plants, and produce. I mean, you've got some zucchinis by now, right? 30 or 60 or 100?</p> <p>Invite a gardener to talk about the process of preparing their garden, or a farmer of their fields, and what sort of yield they get.</p>

		They are working hard, so it could also engage some Body Smart.	
People - Interpersonal MWD	vs. 19 - understand = syniemi to bring together hearing and comprehension	an “a-HA!” moment that is then shared with others for their benefit types of soil = attitude of listeners	Invite folks to work in groups of two, three, or four to come up with their own parable like the sower (see Word above). Share some as time and willingness permit.
Self - Intrapersonal D2			How is the Word growing in you these days? How have you engaged with the Word? How has it challenged you? How have you received it or not? How has the Word changed you in the last year? What fruit has it born?