Journal Page

Think about how you respond to the gospel. Do you believe the good news about Jesus? Do you doubt Jesus when life is hard? Do you have questions? Do you reject the gospel?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Can we know who will believe the gospel?
- What could you do if someone you tell about Jesus doesn't believe the gospel?
- Think about how the sower scattered the seed. What does this show about how we should share the gospel?



Parable of the Sower Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

MAIN POINT: JESUS TOLD A PARABLE ABOUT HOW PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL.

One day, Jesus was sitting by the sea. So many people came to hear Him that Jesus got into a boat and sat down to teach.

Jesus said, "A sower went out to plant seeds. As he was planting, some seeds fell along the path. Soon, the birds came and ate up the seeds from the path. Other seeds fell on rocky ground. The seeds sprouted quickly, but when the sun came up, the plants withered. Other seeds fell among thorns. The thorns grew, and they stopped the seeds from growing. But some of the seeds fell on good ground. Those seeds grew and produced a crop, more than what was planted!"

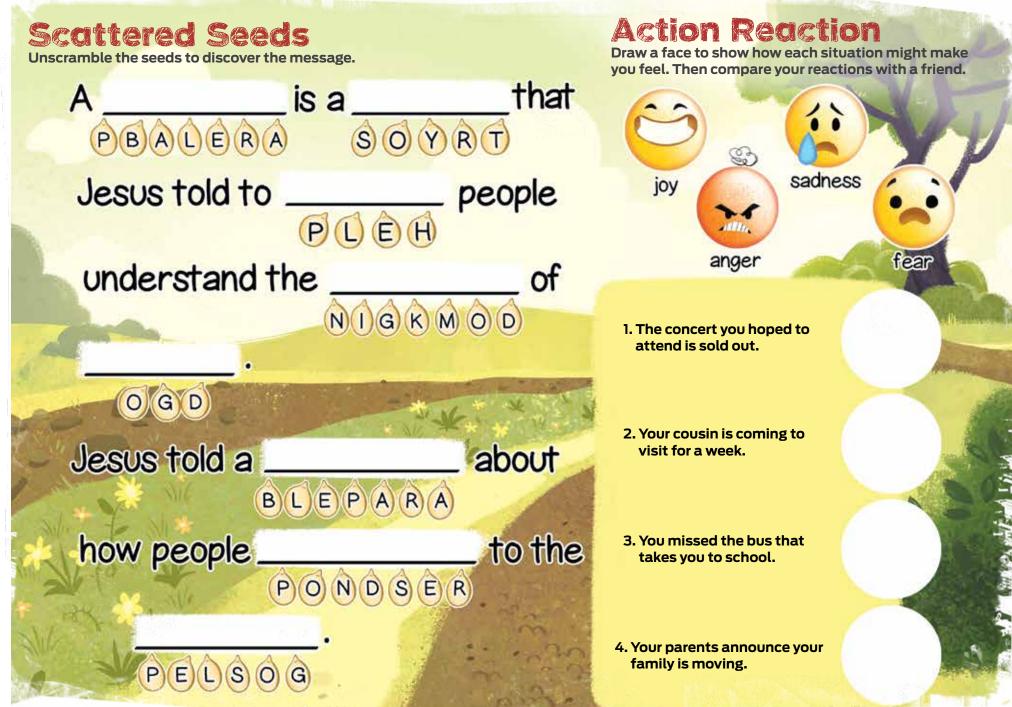
Then Jesus explained the parable to His disciples. He said, "Some people hear the truth about God's kingdom, but they don't understand it. Those people are like the seeds that fell on the path.

"Some people hear the truth about God's kingdom, and they are happy to accept it. But when hard times come, they give up. Those people are like the seeds that fell on rocky ground.

"Some people hear the truth about God's kingdom, but they worry about this life and they love money too much. Those people are like the seeds that fell among thorns.

"But some people hear the truth about God's kingdom, and they understand it. Those people are like the seeds that fell on good ground."

Christ Connection: Jesus is the Sower who shared the truth about God's kingdom. His followers continue to share the truth today, and those who understand and accept the gospel become more like Jesus.



Plant Power

INSTRUCTIONS: Number each picture to show the order of a seed growing into a plant and then dying.



KEY PASSAGE: Mark 6:34

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

• Why did Jesus tell parables? Jesus told parables to teach people about God and His kingdom.

BIBLE STORY: PARABLE OF THE SOWER

- Jesus taught a parable about a man who scattered seeds.
- Jesus told about four kinds of soil, but only one produced a crop
- Each type of soil represented a way people respond to the gospel.
- Not everyone who hears the gospel believes it.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- How can we know who will believe the gospel?
- What could you do if someone you tell about Jesus doesn't believe the gospel?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

• Plant a garden with your family. Check on the seeds daily to see how they are growing. Consider using different kinds of soil to see which grow the best plants.

> Younger Kids Activity Pages Unit 22, Session 1





MAIN POINT: NOT EVERYONE WHO HEARS THE GOSPEL BELIEVES IT.



He saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. Mark 6:34