

Church at Home Family Pack – 12th July 2020

Join us for our online service, usual time of 10:30am on Sunday at
www.ccwsm.org.uk – “see” you there!

If you like, join in with the discussion of Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to the people in your home than others. We’re not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!). Choose the ones which best suit you and your family.

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

Lord Jesus,
help us to have eyes to see
and ears to hear
what you are saying to us.
help us be ready to learn
from your stories.

Amen.

Action reminder –

From the top of my head
(*Touch head*)
to the tips of my toes;
(*Touch toes*)
from the lobes of my ears
(*Touch ear lobes*)
to the end of my nose;
(*Touch nose*)
from my back, to my front
(*Turn round*)
to my wiggly fingers,
(*stretch out arms and wiggle fingers*)
God loves me!
(*jump up and down*)

READ TOGETHER

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23



International Children's Bible (ICB)

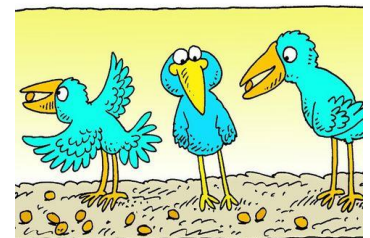


13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Large crowds gathered around him. So Jesus got into a boat and sat, while the people stayed on the shore. ³ Then Jesus used stories to teach them many things. He said: "A farmer went out to plant his seed. ⁴ While he was planting, some seed fell by the road. The birds came and ate all that seed. ⁵ Some seed fell on rocky ground, where there wasn't enough dirt. That seed grew very fast, because the ground was not deep. ⁶ But when the sun rose, the plants dried up because they did not have deep roots. ⁷ Some other seed fell among thorny weeds. The weeds grew and choked the good plants. ⁸ Some other seed fell on good ground where it grew and became grain. Some plants made 100 times more grain. Other plants made 60 times more grain, and some made 30 times more grain. ⁹ Let those with ears use them and listen!"

¹⁸ "So listen to the meaning of that story about the farmer. ¹⁹ What is the seed that fell by the road? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching about the kingdom but does not understand it. The Evil One comes and takes away the things that were planted in that person's heart. ²⁰ And what is the seed that fell on rocky ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and quickly accepts it with joy. ²¹ But he does not let the teaching go deep into his life. He keeps it only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the teaching he accepted, then he quickly gives up. ²² And what is the seed that fell among the thorny weeds? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching but lets worries about this life and love of money stop that teaching from growing. So the teaching does not produce fruit in that person's life. ²³ But what is the seed that fell on the good ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and understands it. That person grows and produces fruit, sometimes 100 times more, sometimes 60 times more, and sometimes 30 times more."

New International Version (NIV)

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear."



¹⁸ "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who

hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

WATCH TOGETHER

The Parable of the Sower (Max7)

<https://youtu.be/V9lOhGPrRvY>

TALK TOGETHER



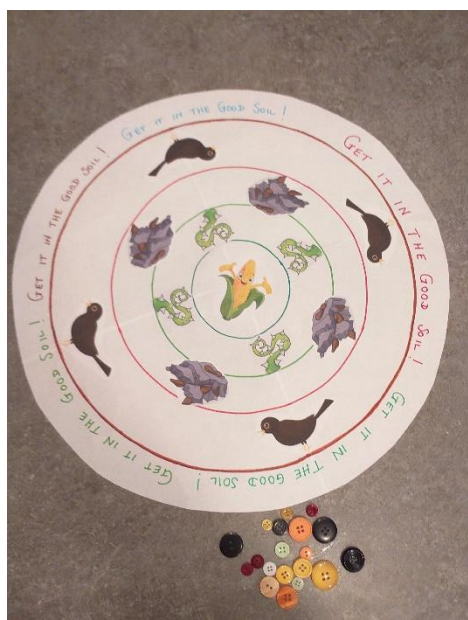
When we look at a plant, we only see a part of it. Deep under the soil are the roots, working hard to ensure the plant stays alive and continues to grow. They may not be pretty or even on view, but you would certainly notice if a plant had no roots!

In the Bible reading today we see that whenever the seeds failed to put down roots, or where the growth of those roots was limited; the plant failed to grow strong. The same is true for us. When we see other Christians growing well, we should be aware that it isn't what's above the surface that matters; it's how deep we're growing our roots.

- What do you think are the outward signs of a healthy, growing Christian?
- What does it mean to set down good roots?
- What should we do to best grow our relationship with Jesus?
- What obstacles may be getting our way?
- During this pandemic and time of lockdown, which soil does it feel like you've been in? Why?

PLAY TOGETHER

Get it in the good soil!



Make a target like the one in the picture – you can use card from your recycling box or tape some pieces of paper together to make it as big or as little as you like. Label each circle with words or pictures – the centre is **good soil** the next circles are the **weeds** then the **rocks and stones** and the then the **path and birds**.

Depending on the size of your target, find some 'seeds' to throw – You could use actual seeds (large ones like sunflower or pumpkin seeds or buttons or beads.

Take it in turns to throw your 'seeds' – seeds that fall in the good soil get one point each, take away a point for any that fall in the other circles - You might end up with a minus score!!

MAKE TOGETHER

Seed mosaics

Being careful of any allergies, why not make a seed mosaic. Draw an outline of a plant or flower or of your own name and fill it with different seeds.

Write the Bible Reading (**Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**) or the whole of verse 23 at the bottom as a reminder.

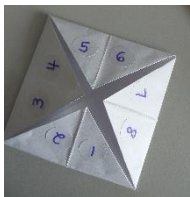


Story Chatterbox

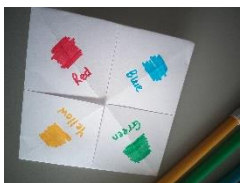
You will need a square of paper and some pens or pencils.



- Fold the paper into quarters then unfold.
- Fold each corner in towards the middle.
- Turn the paper over so that the folded edges are face down, and now fold each corner in towards the middle again.



- Write numbers 1 to 8 on each of the folded triangles, then lift the flaps and write the story in eight parts underneath each triangle shape. (or draw it in pictures)

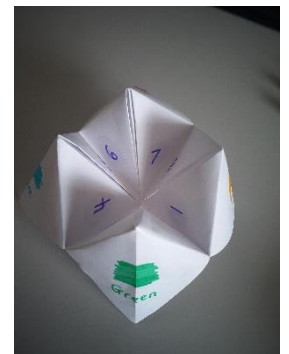


- Flip it over and decorate the folded squares with colours. Place index fingers and thumbs into the squares on each side to fold the story chatterbox in with the coloured squares on top.

How to play

Choose a colour. Spell out the colour as you move the story chatterbox e.g. yellow = 6 moves.

1. Choose a number from one of the triangles and move the story chatterbox that many times.
2. Choose a number from another triangle and open up for that part of the story.
3. See if you can remember which part of the story is under which number!



SING TOGETHER

The Bible (*Kids Praise and Worship*) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahHWtvOmt2E>

God Speaks (*Emu Music*) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5wRCWldvXU>

Word of God (*Vertical Worship*) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9d4p5faTIU>

Ancient Words - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSs7dJLKOKE>

REFLECT TOGETHER

It's gone viral!

Think of some other words for 'viral' ...

www.thesaurus.com suggests –
aggressive, energetic, growing, vigorous.

During this time, what has been 'viral' for you?

Draw a picture of a plant like the one shown. We are like the seed and the plant. Spend some time thinking about the things that have been difficult and write those around the plant. Then think about the things that can help you grow and stay strong and write those in amongst the roots.

Put the picture in your Bible as a reminder of the things you need to grow in faith.



PRAY TOGETHER



A Rocky Prayer

Fill a pot with a few stones or pebbles.

Using card, pens and paper straws or lolly sticks make some flowers. If you or someone you know is having a 'rocky' or difficult time you can place the 'flower' in the pot and pray. (You might like to write a name on the flower) Leave the pot somewhere you can see it and remember to pray each day –

Lord Jesus,

Please help us to grow into the people you want us to be, especially when we feel as if we're in rocky ground.

Help us when we are finding it difficult to keep following you and listening to what you teach us.

Amen.

Jesus be with us, Jesus be in us,
Jesus be around us; Jesus be behind us.

Sow in our hearts the good seed
of love and joy and peace,
that we may be a blessing
to the people around us.

Amen.

DO IT TOGETHER

Grow some roots!

Plant a bean in a glass or jar.

(here's a 'how to' video <https://youtu.be/RTRW2Cf9U2U>)

Over the next couple of weeks, as the bean grows, watch how the root develops first in order for the plant to grow and thrive.



Remember that we need to 'develop our faith roots' in order to thrive.

Make your faith 'go viral'

Tell someone about Jesus this week; in person, by text, on Twitter, or put a status update about your faith on Facebook.

Email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

Action Reminder and prayer taken from

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Talk Together adapted from Energize