

Class Structure

- 1: Lords Prayer English & Greek**
- 2: Gospel Reading, discussion and explanation**
- 3: Pick a Saint to talk about and Miracles**
- 4: Read the Creed until learned by memory Greek & English**

1: Lords Prayer English & Greek *(Pray with class)*

2: Gospel Reading, discussion and explanation

Ask the students who wants to read the Gospel

Luke 8:5-15 *(New King James Version)*

5 “A **sower** went out to **sow his seed**. And as he sowed, **some fell by the wayside**; and it was **trampled down, and the birds** of the air **devoured it**.

6 **Some fell on rock**; and as soon as it **sprang up, it withered away** because it lacked moisture.

7 And **some fell among thorns**, and **the thorns sprang up with it and choked it**.

8 But others **fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.**” When He had said these things He cried, **“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”**

The Purpose of Parables

9 Then His disciples asked Him, saying, **“What does this parable mean?”**

10 And He said, **“To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.’**”

The Parable of the Sower Explained

11 “Now the parable is this: **The seed is the word of God.**

12 **Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.**

13 But the **ones on the rock** are those who, when **they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.**

14 Now the **ones that fell among thorns** are those who, when they have **heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.**

15 But the **ones that fell on the good ground** are those who, **having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.**

The sower was Jesus which was the word of God, and he threw out seeds everywhere for everyone equally. That seed was the gospel. It landed on the ground of different people's hearts. Just like a farmer's land is not always in perfect shape for fruit to grow. So is the land, which the seeds from Christ fell and landed on our hearts, which is the same as farmers land. The land comes in four different forms, according to this parable. It is shown to us to fall by the wayside, it falls on rocky ground, it falls on thorny ground, and it also falls on good ground to symbolize the four types of people in the world. Three out of four of these people do not enter the kingdom of heaven; only one does and that is the one on good ground, which we should strive to be.

Some seeds were thrown on the wayside. Resemble when a person hears the word of God and like the birds of the air come and steal the seed from the Wayside, so do the demons come and snatch the word of God from that person's heart, and when the word is kept from their heart, they are also kept from God.

Some of the seeds are thrown on rocky ground. This resembles when a person hears the word of God and as rocks lack to hold the water, so does their heart lack to hold the water of the gospel. Their soul becomes dried up, lacks moisture, lacks the word of God, and becomes in want of something but don't know what it is.

Some of the seeds are thrown on thorny ground. That person, God, his commandments, and his knowledge are choked out of them. This happens because they turn from God to their passions, cares of this world, riches, pride, ambitions, sports, and whatever is keeping them from God. The thorny person is a difficult person to recognize because they can seem to be a Christian on the outside and do all the things like go to church, pray, have families, give alms, etc., but they do not have Christ in their hearts, and that becomes the downfall for them.

Some of the seeds fell on good ground. These people sprang up to be the Saints 30, 60 100 fold. Each producing according to what ground the seed fell on. If we are the ground and the word of God is the seed to become like saints, we must tend our souls (soil). The soil doesn't automatically become good; it is tended after being worked on constantly to make good soil. Just as a farmer works his soil, weeds it, gets the rocks out, and turns it so he can plant seeds to grow good fruit. We must do the same, so we can become Saints.

I know some of you are thinking, I can never be a saint; I don't have this or that quality. Our job is to tend the soil like the farmer. Make sure our seeds are in good ground. If they fall by the wayside, or on rocks or thorns, our job is to repent, get in the dirt, and revive it. Our goal in tending our soil is to grow closer to God, to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind," and "your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27 Don't try to judge your self or others; just have compassion on your neighbor and tend your soil. This means we need to till it to make the dirt usable, put a fence around it to protect it from animals (demons and the world), water it, and nurture it so when it produces fruit (a saint), it won't be choked out by the wayside, rocks, and thorns of this world, but produce fruit (a saint) for God.

Ask students questions how can we tend our soil.

3: *Pick a Saint to talk about and Miracles*

4: *Read the Creed until learned by memory Greek & English*