

# Learn by Doing

## **Choice** A Sower Went out to Sow

Reenact the story of the Sower while singing *The Sower* song that was introduced during the warm-up activity. The children act like the seeds planted in different kinds of ground.



1. We are going to sing *The Sower* song again.  
Sing along with the video or sing it by yourselves.
2. When everyone is feeling comfortable, let them know that they will be acting out the story while they sing the song.
3. Assign roles and get the children in starting positions.
  - For a young group, the teacher can be the Lord in a boat or the sower, and the children the seeds growing in various places.
  - For older children, parts could be assigned so that one child could be the Lord, another the sower, and one or more child could be each type of seed, etc.
4. Act out the parable while singing the song.
5. If there is interest and time, repeat the story. Use the same actors or assign new roles.

### Materials Needed

Open space, blue sheet for Sea of Galilee, “boat” for Jesus, seeds that are easy to clean up (e.g. bird seed); device for playing *The Sower* at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-the-sower/>

### Prepare in Advance

Become familiar with *The Sower* song on p. 2 and *A Sower Went out to Sow Words and Actions* p. 3. Gather props and set up the room.

### New Church Concept Good Made Fruitful

Goodness continually flows in from the Lord. But when it comes through the inner or spiritual person to the outer or natural person, it is there either perverted, turned back, or suffocated. But when the things which belong to the love of self and love of the world are removed from the outer person, then goodness is received there and is made fruitful. See *Arcana Coelestia* 3147.2

# The Sower

Matthew 13: 3-8

Lori Odhner

D A D

1. A sow - er went out to sow seeds on the ground, And  
2. And some of the seeds fell up - on a hard rock, And  
3. And some of the seeds fell in this - tles and thorns, And  
4. And some of the seeds fell up - on the good ground, And

The first system of music features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are numbered 1 through 4, corresponding to the four verses of the parable.

G A D A

some of the fell on the road.— And they were all tram-pled and  
then when they start-ed to try— To grow straight and tall they all  
then when they start-ed to bloom,— The thorns and the this - tles all  
then when they start-ed to root,— Those seeds all grew up to be

The second system of music continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe the fates of the seeds: some were trampled and trodden underfoot, some grew straight and tall, and some were choked by thorns and tangles.

D G A D

eat - en by birds. And so those seeds could nev - er grow.—  
with - ered a - way, Be - cause they were thirst - y and dry.—  
choked them to death And left them with - out an - y room.—  
health - y and strong And blos - somed with hun - dreds of fruit.—

The third system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics describe the final fates of the seeds: some were eaten by birds, some withered away due to lack of water, and some grew healthy and strong, producing a large harvest.

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# A Sower Went out to Sow Words & Actions

Act out the song while singing along to *The Sower* at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-the-sower/>.

A sower went out to sow seeds on the ground,

Sower sows seeds.

And some of them fell on the road.

Children curl up like “seeds” on the road.

And they were all trampled and eaten by birds.

Children get up and “fly away” around the room.

And so those seeds could never grow.

Children get ready to curl up on the floor again.

And some of the seeds fell upon a hard rock,

Sower sows seeds.

And then when they started to try

Children curl up like “seeds” on rock.

To grow straight and tall they all withered away,

Children “grow” up but wither back down to the ground again.

Because they were thirsty and dry.

Children get ready to curl up on the floor again.

And some of the seeds fell in thistles and thorns,

Sower sows seeds. Children curl up like “seeds”.

And then when they started to bloom,

Children stand up and make their hands into flowers that bloom.

The thorns and the thistles all choked them to death

Children put their hands across their chests and sink down on to the floor.

And left them without any room.

Children get ready to curl up on the floor again.

And some of the seeds fell upon the good ground,

Sower sows seeds. Children curl up like “seeds”.

And then when they started to root,

Children stand up.

Those seeds all grew up to be healthy and strong

Children stretch their hands up toward the ceiling.

And blossomed with hundreds of fruit.

Children open their hands and wave them back and forth over their heads.

