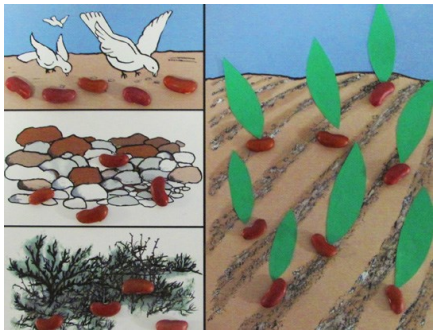
Learn by Doing

Choice Planting in Good Ground

In the parable of the Sower, seed is sown onto four different kinds of ground with varying results. In this project, children embellish a picture showing the different kinds of ground with seeds and leaves.

Be sure to show that only the seeds sown in good ground were able to grow and thrive.



1. Distribute copies of *Different Kinds of Ground* (p. 2) and give each child a small handful of (about 15) seeds.
2. Have children glue seeds to the wayside image while you talk about what happened to the seeds that fell there. (Depending on the age of your group, you may want to puts dots of glue on the pictures for the children to place the seeds on.)
3. Repeat step 2 with the stony ground, thorny ground and good ground pictures.
4. After gluing seeds onto the good ground, talk about what happened then—the seeds could take root and grow. Give each child some green paper. Cut (or tear) the paper into leaves.
    - If using regular green paper, cut leaf shapes out of the paper. (Depending on the age of your group you may wish to cut leaves for the children ahead of time.)
    - If using tissue paper, tear the paper into small pieces and scrunch them up a bit. (Depending on the age of your group, you may wish to pre-tear or cut the tissue into small pieces.)
5. Have children glue the "leaves" above the seeds on the "good ground"—to show the growing plants.
6. *Optional*: Let children add more color to the picture with crayons.

Materials Needed

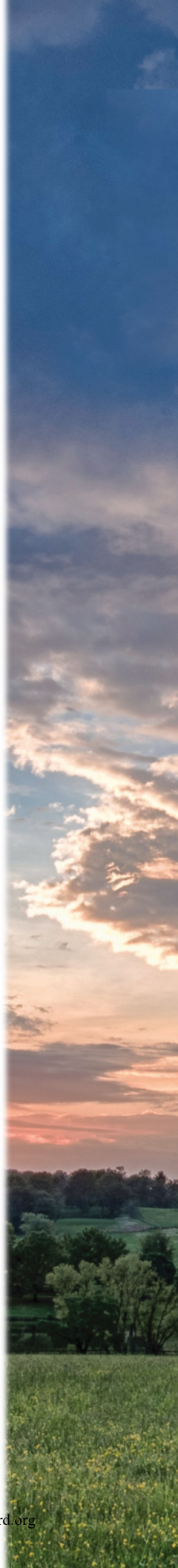
Different Kinds of Ground p. 2 printed on stiff paper for each child; seeds such as beans, lentils, sunflower seeds, etc.; green paper or tissue paper; glue; scissors optional: crayons

Prepare in Advance

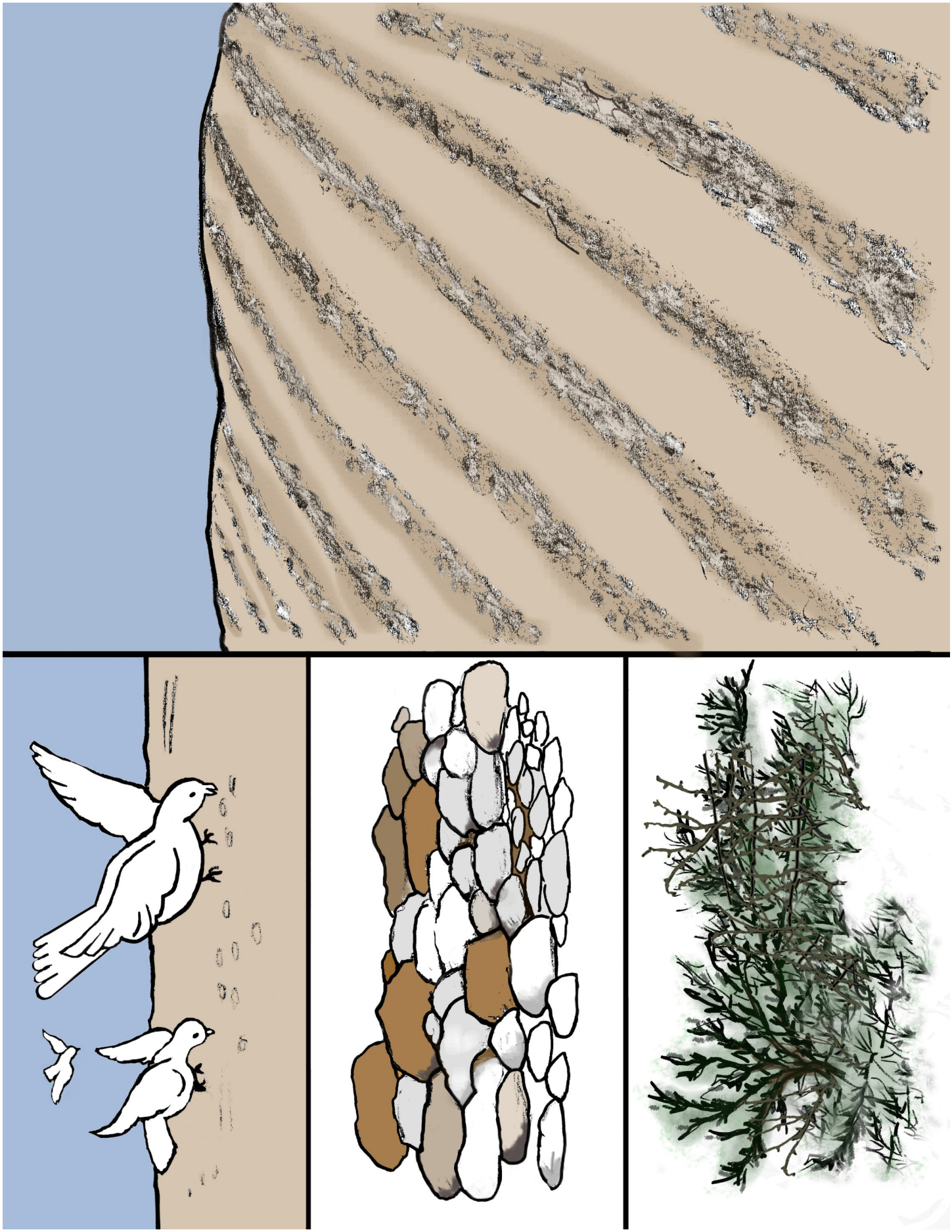
Print copies of *Different Kinds of Ground* p. 2 on stiff paper. Depending on your group, you may want to pre-pare enough "leaves" for the class ahead of time.

New Church Concept Kinds of Ground

A "field" means the good of life in which are to be implanted the things of faith, that is, spiritual truths which are of the church. This is evident from the Lord's parable of the sower. That the "seed" is the Word of the Lord, or truth, which is said to be of faith, and that the "good ground" is the good which is of charity, is evident, for it is the good in a person that receives the Word. The "hard way" is falsity. A "stony place" is truth that has no root in good. "Thorns" are evils. See *Arcana Coelestia* 3310



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Different Kinds of Ground