Learn by Doing

Choice Sower Story Bag

In the parable of the Sower, seed is sown on four different kinds of ground with varying results. Children will create a sower story bag filled with cards to help them retell the story as it is told in the Word. The picture of a seed has the Word on it to reinforce the idea that the meaning of the parable is about receiving the Word.



1. Show children your sample bag and pull the story cards out of it. As you hold the cards up in order, invite the children to retell the story. Note that the seed card is used multiple times: (1) sower (2) seed (3) wayside (4) birds (5) seed (6) stones (7) seed (8) thorns (9) seed (10) good ground (11) growing plants.



2. Give each child a paper bag and a pencil. Demonstrate how to draw two simple lines on a flat, folded bag to make a handle strap for the sower's bag. (See picture on right.) Children can erase and redraw the lines until they are satisfied.
3. Have children cut along the lines and discard the paper bag scraps. Open the bag and cut off the extra flap where it was folded. (See picture below).



4. Fold the two ends of the bag handle over each other and tape together. (See picture above.)
5. Distribute a copy of *Sower Story Bag Cards* (p. 2) to each child and have them cut the pieces apart.
6. If time allows, divide the children into pairs and have them take turns retelling the story in order with the cards.
7. Have children put the cards in the sower bag to take home. Encour-age them to retell the story to their family using the cards.

Materials Needed for Each Child

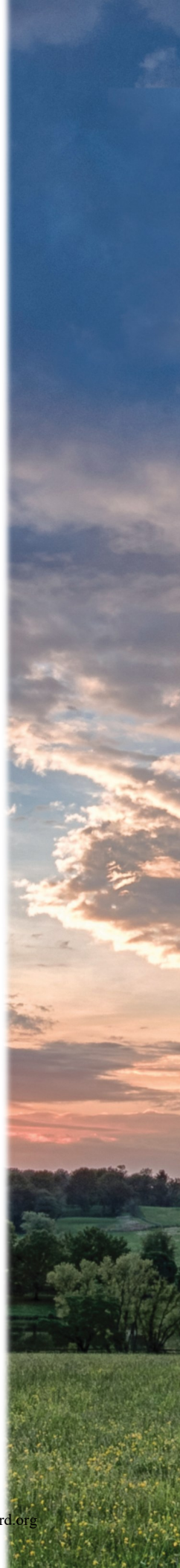
Copy of Sower Story Bag Cards p. 2 printed on stiff paper, brown paper lunch bag, pencil with eraser, tape, scissors

Prepare in Advance

Print the Sower Story Bag Cards p. 2 on stiff paper. Make a sample sower's bag out of a lunch bag.

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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Sower Story Bag Cards

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