

Parables

What stories did Jesus tell?



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The Parable of the Sower

³ "Listen! A farmer went out to plant his seed. ⁴ While the farmer 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 much dirt. The seed grew very fast there because the ground was not deep. ⁶ But when the sun rose, the plants withered. The plants died because they did not have deep roots. ⁷ Some other seed fell among thorny weeds. The weeds grew and choked the good plants. So those plants did not make grain. ⁸ Some other seed fell on good ground. In the good ground, the seed began to grow. It grew and made a crop of grain. Some plants made 30 times more grain, some 60 times more grain, and some 100 times more grain."

⁹ Then Jesus said, "Let those with ears use them and listen!"

Mark 4: 3-12

Watch a video of the story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdl30v2Io-Y&feature=youtu.be>

What do you think the story means? Talk to an adult about your ideas.

The Parable of the Sower

Background information: *This parable explains how different people respond to the message and teaching of Jesus. It describes seed falling on four types of ground. The seed and its subsequent growth, or not, symbolises how people respond to the message of Jesus.*

v4: *Seed falling on the path and eaten by birds. Symbolises people hearing the message but ignore it.*

v5-6: *Seed falling on stony ground that sprouts quickly but the roots are shallow. The sun soon withers the plant and it dies. Symbolises those that hear the message, act with enthusiasm but as soon as things get hard they turn away and go back to their old ways.*

V7: *Seed falling amongst thorn bushes grow but get choked by the weeds and thorns. Symbolises those that are distracted by the world around them e.g. money, status etc. and then turn away from the message.*

v8: *Seed falling on good ground grows productively and yields fruit.*

v9-12: *People have a responsibility to hear the message of Jesus and to obey.*



Christianity was once a secret religion which was outlawed and despised by the Roman culture at the time. It was difficult to follow the teachings of Jesus so early Christians would meet in secret and use secret signs and symbols.

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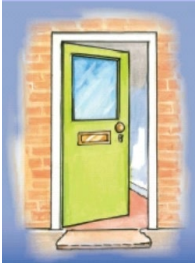


Chi-Rho



Design your own secret symbol in the box below.

A large empty box for designing a secret symbol.

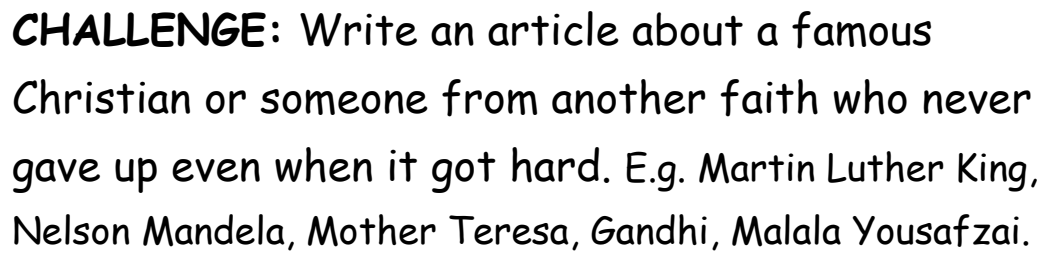


It is not always easy to follow good advice.
Sometimes there are challenges which make it
difficult to do the right thing.

What things
have you found
difficult?

Have you ever
wanted to give up?

Did you? If not,
what stopped you?



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal black ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.