

3 puppets

Sower Parable

Spike: I'm so glad you could come with me today. Working in a garden and helping things grow is one of my favorite things to do.

Maria: Mine, too. Did I ever tell you about the time I planted some sunflower seeds and they grew as tall as...Mr. Besco!

Spike: Wow! I didn't think anything but trees grew that tall. Those were some mondo tall flowers!

Duke: They must have had some really good soil to grow in.

Maria: I didn't know it made a difference--I mean, dirt is dirt, right?

Spike: Not necessarily. Plants don't grow so good if they're planted in rocky soil

Duke: Or where there are lots of weeds.

Maria: Where'd you learn all this about different types of soil?

Spike: In the Bible.

Maria: You're kidding! I didn't know the Bible had anything to say about gardening.

Spike: (to kids) Wow, I actually know something Maria doesn't! (to Maria) Jesus told a story about a sower and four types of soil.

Maria: You mean a lady who sewed had a garden.

Spike: Could have been a lady, I guess. And she went out to sow some seeds one day . . .

Maria: (interrupting) What did she sew the seeds to, the ground? each other?

Duke: No, silly, she didn't sew the seeds to each other, she sowed them in the ground, in other words, she planted them. Sowed means planted.

Maria: Like I said, she sewed the seeds to the ground. Interesting new gardening technique.

Spike: (big sigh) OK, whatever. Anyway, the birds came and ate part of the seed, so it couldn't grow. Part of the seeds fell on soil that had lots of rocks in it, so the roots didn't go very deep, and as soon as the temperature hit 110 degrees, those plants just collapsed.

Maria: Why didn't the sower water them?

Lower p. 2

Spike: I don't know, maybe she had a hole in her bucket--

Duke: (singing) There's a hole in the bucket dear Liza dear Liza...

Spike: (clears throat) Back to the story, some of the seed fell in ground with a bunch a thorns, and they strangled the baby plants.

Maria: Vicious!

Spike: But some of the seeds fell on good soil and produced lots of good fruit.

Maria: What kind of fruit, apples, or cherries, or maybe watermelon. Watermelon's my favorite!

Duke: They didn't have watermelon in Jesus' day. Anyway, the point is, only the seed planted in the good soil grew really well.

Maria: But why was Jesus so interested in gardening?

Spike: He wasn't. He told the disciples that the seed in His story represented the word of God, and the different types of soil stood for the different ways that people hear the message about Jesus.

Maria: Oh, I see what you mean. Like some people hear about Jesus and ask Him into their heart the same day, but some people hear about Him over and over and never ask Him into their heart.

Spike: Right! You got the idea. People's hearts have to be ready to hear about Jesus, just like the dirt has to be soft and wet to grow healthy flowers.

Maria: Now let's grow some Sunflowers!!!

Duke: (to Spike) I gotta see this! She's gonna try to sew the seeds to the ground! (all exit)