



SCRIPTURE
MARK 4:1-9

Parable of the Sower or Parable of the Good Earth? The command to *listen* implies being present to the moment and paying attention. The notion of *good earth* suggests agency in the actions of the farmer.



TRADITION
EXPECTATIONS

Traditions shape our expectations of the *environment* in which our children are formed (our families) and the *fruit* that is expected (child's behavior, decisions, actions).



VITAL WITNESS
EXPERIENCE

Reflect on the *ideals* that guide your parenting decisions. Reflect on what brings out the best in you and in your child. Consider forming a plan that helps you and your child be your best selves as frequently as possible.



SCIENCE
SECURE ATTACHMENT

Children thrive in an environment in which their primary caregivers provide a secure base from which to explore and a safe haven to return to for comfort when emotions become overwhelming or a situation too much.

WHAT MAKES THE SOIL GOOD?

Vital Witness



Describe the environment in which your child is his/her authentic and best self.

Think in terms of sleep, activity level, alone/with others, level of structure, energy...

Describe the environment in which you are your authentic and best self.



The Soil in which we are Planted



Describe an authentic and best-self moment that you and your child(ren) shared recently.

Could you engineer more in a given day?

Why? or Why not?

Amending our Soil

What do you do to contribute to the making of the good soil in which to raise your child(ren)?

How does your child influence/impact the “soil” in your home?

When things aren’t going well, what do you do to get back on track?