



**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?

### Science

#### What does your child do?

- to let you know he/she is frightened or uncomfortable?
- to let you know he/she wants to be close to you?
- to let you know he/she wants you to delight in him/her while he/she explores?

#### What do you do?

- to help your child feel safe when he/she is frightened or uncomfortable?
- to comfort your child when he/she wants to be close to you?
- to delight in your child while he/she explores?

# Bigger, Stronger, Wiser, Kind

**What could your child's misbehavior be telling you?**



**How can you be bigger when your child misbehaves?**

**How can you be stronger when your child misbehaves?**

**How can you be wiser when your child misbehaves?**

**How can you be kind when your child misbehaves?**

## Rituals of Connection

***What rituals of connection do you enjoy with your child...***

- when you wake up?
- when you leave/return to the house?
- at bed time?
- on vacation?
- during holidays?
- around illness?