



Stories of the Kingdom

The Farmer Who Sowed His Seed

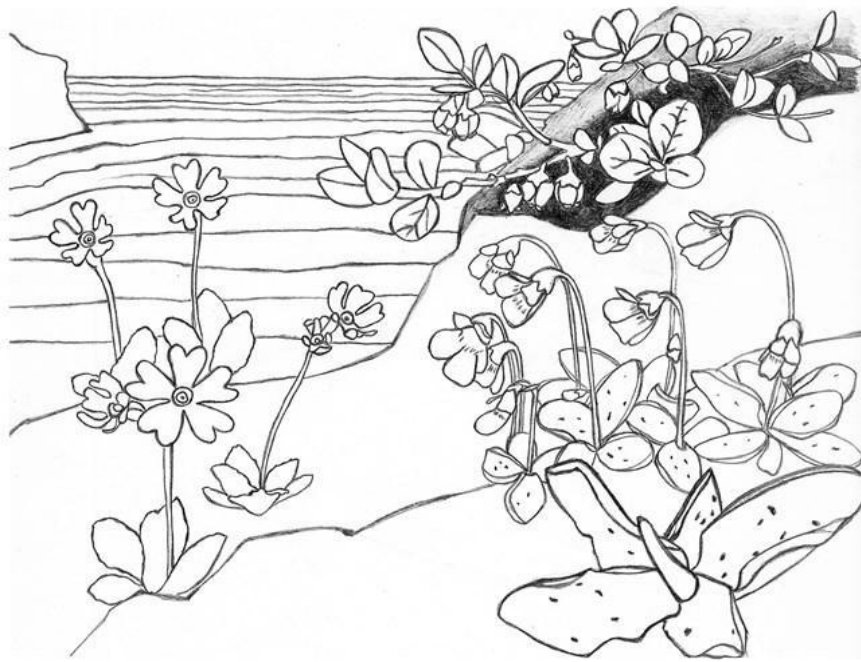
Jesus told the crowd
this story.

A farmer went out to
sow seed.



While he was scattering
the seed, some of it fell
by the road. The birds
came and ate all that
seed.





Other seed fell on rocky ground,
where there was not enough dirt.
It grew very fast there, because
the soil was not deep. But when
the sun rose, it burned the
plants and they died.

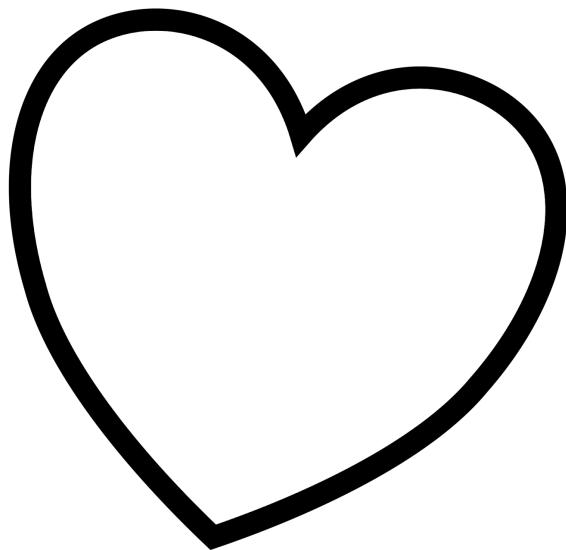


Some other seed fell
among thorny weeds.
The weeds grew and
stopped the good plants
from growing.

But some of the seed fell on good ground and there grew the wheat . Some plants made 100 times more grain, some 60 times more, and some 30 times more.



Every story has a meaning.
So what about the seed that
fell by the path? These are the
people who hear the teaching
about God's Kingdom, but do
not understand it and so what
was planted in their hearts
fell away.



The seed that fell on rocky ground is like the people who hear God's Word and gladly accept it. But they do not let it take root in their lives and when hard times come they fall away.



The seed that fell among the thorny weeds are like the people who hear God's Word, but because of worries and the love for money the seed is not allowed to grow, and so it doesn't produce a crop.



But what about the
seed that falls on the
good ground?

These are the people
who hear God's Word and
understand it, and it
produces a harvest .



Then Jesus used another story to teach them. Jesus said, God's Kingdom is like a man who planted good seed in his field . That night, while everyone was asleep, the man's enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and then left.



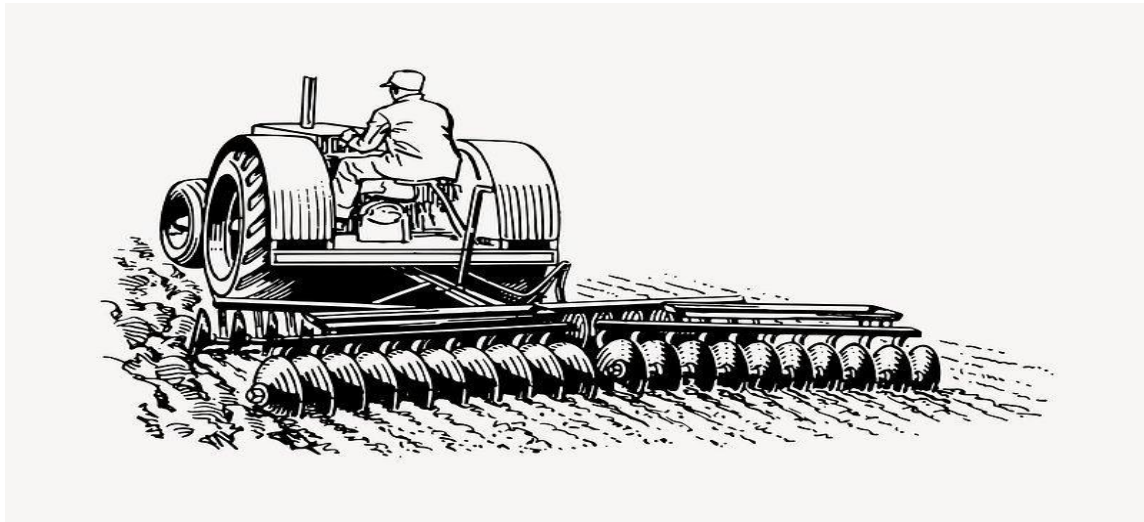
Later, the wheat grew, and heads of grain grew on the plants. But at the same time the weeds also grew. Then the man's servants came to him and said, You planted good seed in your field. Where did the weeds come from?



The man answered, An enemy planted weeds. The servants asked, Do you want us to go and pull up the weeds? He answered, No, because when you pull up the weeds, you might also pull up the wheat. Let the weeds and the wheat grow together until the harvest time.



At the harvest time I will tell the workers this: First, gather the weeds and tie them together to be burned. Then gather the wheat and bring it to my barn.



Then Jesus left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to Him and said, Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field. He answered, The one who sowed the good seed is Me.



The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the Kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.



As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. Jesus will send out His angels, and they will weed out of His Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father.

