

March 18-24 Matthew 13; Luke 8; 13

"WHO HATH EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR"

1. He that hath eyes to see, ears to hear: Sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes." Talk about what eyes and ears are supposed to be used for. How can we use them to help us learn about Jesus and Heavenly Father? Matthew 13:9 says, "Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." What kinds of things should we use our ears to listen to? What kinds of things should we look at with our eyes if we're trying to learn about Jesus and the things He teaches? Can our hearts also help us learn about Him?
2. Parable of the Sower – Jesus told a parable (story) about how we can help our testimonies grow (remind them what "testimony" means). Read Matthew 13:3-8. Explain what a "sower" is. As you read the verses, have them look at "The Sower" picture and point to/color each section as they hear it in the scriptures. Spend a little time talking about each one as they color (Will the seeds that got eaten by the birds grow into anything? Will the seeds that fell on stony places grow tall? What does it mean for seeds to get choked by thorns? Will they grow or die? What do you think good ground looks like? Etc).
3. How the Sower Applies to Us Sorting Cards: Jesus compared these seeds to how we can help our testimonies grow. Luke 8:11 explains that the seed is what we learn about Jesus (the word of God). Cut out the rectangles and read/summarize/discuss each one at a time. Match each rectangle with the correct part of "The Sower" page as you discuss. Spend plenty of time helping them see how each could apply to us. Help them to see which seed grew best, and talk about why it grew so well and how to apply that to ourselves.
4. Story Time (Parable Booklets) – Tell them we're going to have "Story Time." Jesus shared a lot of stories called parables with people to help teach them things that He thought were important. Tell them we're going to read some of these, but they need to really make sure they listen, look, and think a lot about these stories because some of them might be kind of confusing if they're not paying attention. Hide the parable booklets around the room. As they find them, read the scriptures for each parable, and then read and discuss the booklet for it. Maybe have milk and cookies while we read to make it a fun story time?
 - There are a TON of great lessons and applications in these parables, so after we do a quick discussion on these at the beginning of the week, I think we'll split them up and reread/focus on one each day throughout the week to help them get a deeper level of understanding. There are about ten trillion ideas on Pinterest to go along with these. I've included a few links that I found that could be used with different parables each day at the end of this lesson plan. We'll probably reread one parable for the day, act it out, and then choose a Pinterest activity to do with it.
 - *Please keep in mind that the lessons that can be learned from these parables can go a lot deeper than the basic explanations I've typed up for these booklets. The Teachings of Joseph Smith book has some AMAZING explanations on these, but definitely not a level of understanding my kids are at yet. If you have older kids, you might want to spend more time talking about the deeper meanings with them. Also, I'm not 100% sure on the parable of the householder meaning...different things I've read on it have different explanations, but I'm*

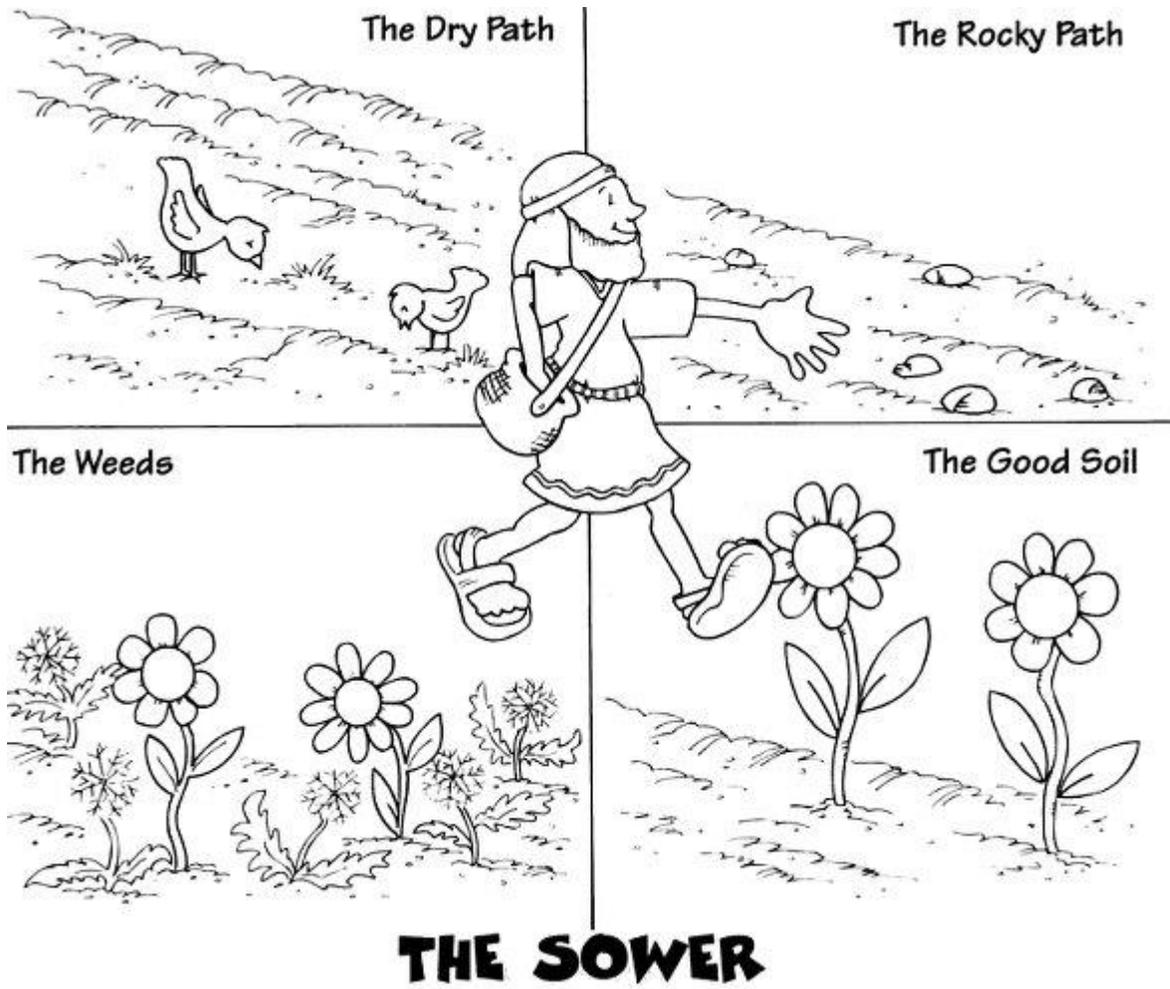
basically using it to discuss how the Bible and Book of Mormon have old and new treasures in them.

5. Sower Booklet: Save the Parable of the Sower booklet for the last. Read and review its meaning.
6. Plant a Seed: Set out a seed and some kind of cup/pot to put it in. Review the parable of the sower. Read/summarize Luke 8:11-15 and discuss.
 - Show them a seed. Remind them that this represents the things we learn about Jesus (the word of God). Ask them what would be the best way to get this to grow well.
 - Would we want to set it on top of the dirt and put it out where birds would come take it away?
 - Would we want to fill the pot with rocks?
 - What would happen if there were weeds and thorns in the pot?
 - Help them see that we would want to put good soil in the pot and then put the seed in deep enough to make sure it's safe and can start to grow.
 - Maybe do an experiment in different pots to see if seeds grow better on rocks or in soil?
 - Again, compare these to the ways we can help our testimonies grow and talk about how we can keep them growing.
 - Read/summarize Alma 32:42-43. Talk about rewards (fruits) we get for doing these things.
 - Sing Primary "Faith" song.
7. Treat: Make "Dirt Cups" to represent good soil- Put chocolate pudding in a cup with crushed Oreos on top to represent good soil. Review ways we can make our hearts soft and good so we can hear and understand God's word. Could make a flower spoon for it like this link shows:
<http://stuffamymade.blogspot.com/2012/04/flower-pot-dirt-dessert.html?m=1>

Additional Ideas:

Cute 5 minute YouTube video on parable of the sower: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdl30y2lo-Y>
Seed/flower craft: <https://www.theresourcefulmama.com/paper-plate-sunflower-craft/>

Parable of the Sower:



From <http://cfile234.uf.daum.net/image/19290C1D4A8359F1649AA7>

How the Sower Applies to Us Sorting Cards: Cut pictures and sort them into the parts of "The Sower" page that they go along with.

Older kids could use the extra rectangles to write/draw how each applies to themselves. For example:

-*Things that might cause us to not understand the word (fowls by the wayside): not listening during family scripture study/church/General Conference/ Etc.*

-*Seed in stony places with no root: Falling out of habits of reading scriptures, caving into peer pressure, etc.*

-*Seed among thorns: Letting money, Minecraft, other worldly things take priority over spiritual things*

-*Good ground: Learning and doing the things we're taught in church, scriptures, General Conference, etc.*

<p>MATTHEW 13:19 WHEN ANYONE HEARETH THE WORD OF THE KINGDOM, AND UNDERSTANDETH IT NOT, THEN COMETH THE WICKED ONE, AND CATCHETH AWAY THAT WHICH WAS SOWN IN HIS HEART. THIS IS HE WHICH RECEIVED SEED BY THE WAY SIDE."</p> 	<p>MATTHEW 13:20-21 BUT HE THAT RECEIVED THE SEED INTO STONY PLACES, THE SAME IS HE THAT HEARETH THE WORD, AND ANON WITH JOY RECEIVETH IT; YET HE HATH NO ROOT IN HIMSELF, BUT DURETH FOR A WHILE: FOR WHEN TRIBULATION OR PERSECUTION ARISETH BECAUSE OF THE WORD, BY AND BY HE IS OFFENDED.</p> 
<p>MATTHEW 13:22 HE ALSO THAT RECEIVED SEED AMONG THE THORNS IS HE THAT HEARETH THE WORD; AND THE CARE OF THIS WORLD, AND THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES, CHOKES THE WORD, AND HE BECOMETH UNFRUITFUL.</p> 	<p>MATTHEW 13:23 BUT HE THAT RECEIVED SEED INTO THE GOOD GROUND IS HE THAT HEARETH THE WORD, AND UNDERSTANDETH IT; WHICH ALSO BEARETH FRUIT, AND BRINGETH FORTH, SOME AN HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY.</p> 

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
The wicked and the righteous grow
together until the end of the world.



Tares look a lot like wheat.
Wheat is good. Tares are poisonous.
Do we want to be like tares or wheat?
How can we stay good like wheat even
when there are bad things around us?

The Parable of
**The Wheat
and Tares**

Matthew 13:31-32
The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of
mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in
his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds:
but when it is grown, it is the greatest among
herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds
of the air come and lodge in the branches
thereof.



The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard
seed.
How big is a mustard seed?
Could it grow to be very big?
How can the kingdom of heaven grow?
How can we help it grow?

The Parable of
**The Mustard
Seed**

Matthew 13:33
 The kingdom of heaven is like unto
 leaven, which a woman took, and hid in
 three measures of meal, till the whole
 was leavened.

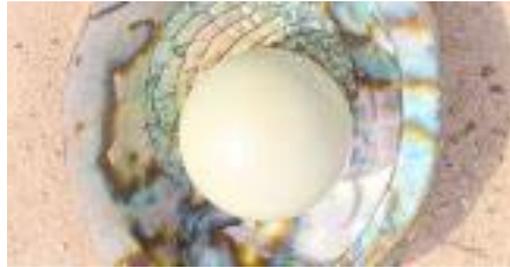


The kingdom of heaven is like leaven.
 Leaven is something put in bread dough
 to make it rise.
 A little bit of it can make a big change.
 What little things can we do to make big
 changes on Earth?

The Parable of

The Leaven

Matthew 13:44-46
 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a
 field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and
 for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and
 buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like
 unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: who, when he
 had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that
 he had, and bought it.



The kingdom of heaven is like hidden
 treasure and a pearl of great price.
 The things Jesus teaches are worth more
 than anything else in the world.
 What things can we give up to show God
 that we love His Gospel above all else?

The Parable of

The Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price

gnashing of teeth

into the furnace of fire: there shall be willing and
sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them
at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and
the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be
was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered
into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it
The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast

Matthew 13:47-50



The kingdom of heaven is like a net.

Not all fish caught in nets are good.

The bad fish are cast away.

Heavenly Father will one day separate
the good people from the bad people.

How can we live good lives?

The Parable of

The Net

new and old

Every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom
of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder,
which bringeth forth out of his treasure things

Matthew 13:52



Matthew 13:52

The Gospel is full of treasures (things that are of
great worth).

Some treasures are old. Some are new.

What are some treasures that were given to us a
long time ago? (Bible, etc.) What are some
treasures that are newer? (Book of Mormon, etc.)

Can both old and new treasures be important?

The Parable of

The Householder

My heart must be prepared to receive
the word of God.
Matthew 13:3-23; Luke 8:4-15



The word of God is like a seed.
Not all seeds grow well.
What can we do to help seeds grow big?
What can we do to help our testimonies
grow to be big and strong?

The Parable of
The Sower

Some Pinterest Ideas for Parables:

**The Wheat and Tares* (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)

<http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/weeds-mixed.php>
<https://childrensministry.com/object-lesson-great-separation/>
<http://biblewise.com/kids/fun/wheat-and-tares.php>
<http://biblewise.com/results.php#stq=wheat%20and%20tares&stp=1>

**The Mustard Seed* (Matthew 13: 31-32)

<http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/a-tiny-seed.php>
<http://www.just4kidsmagazine.com/rainbowcastle/mustardseed.html>
https://www.ehow.com/how_7676974_make-mustard-seed-necklace.html

**The Leaven* (Matthew 13:33)

<http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/leaven.php>
<http://discoverymoments.com/thoughts/the-parable-of-the-yeast/>
<http://childrensbiblelessons.blogspot.com/2015/01/lesson-parable-of-leaven.html>

**The Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price* (Matthew 13:44-46)

<http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/the-treasure.php>
<https://missionbibleclass.org/new-testament/part1/parables-teachings-of-jesus/parables-of-a-hidden-treasure-and-valuable-pearl/>
<http://www.jesus-without-language.net/parable-of-the-pearl-matthew-13-make/>

**The Net* (Matthew 13:47-50)

<http://cutandpasteministry.blogspot.com/2013/01/parable-of-net.html>
<http://www.biblesongsandmore.com/2013/07/13/goodbad-fish-floor-activity/>
(could write things on fish in this link that are good/bad things we can do)

The Householder (Matthew 13:52)

You could have them find/talk about scriptures or things that they've learned that are considered treasures to them.