

a script from

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**“Mom’s Good Soil Garden”**

By

Dave Tippett

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**What** This skit revisits the Parable of the Sower, with a Mom trying her best to sow good, but disheartened with what she thinks are the final results until the Lord shows her that not all her efforts were in vain.

Themes: Mother's Day, Parable of the Sower, Word of God

**Who** Storyteller  
Mom  
Seeds: Eight actors (non-speaking)  
Birds: Two actors (non-speaking)  
Thorns: Two actors (non-speaking)  
Sun: One actor (non-speaking)  
Jesus: (non-speaking)

**When** Present Day

**Costumes** Be creative with their various costumes for the Sun, Thorns, and Bird actors or keep them simple. The Seed actors should all be dressed the same, for example, white t-shirts and jeans. For Jesus, costume can be Biblically based or simple contemporary clothing.

**Props** Cardboard sign that says "30X"  
Cardboard sign that says "60X"  
Cardboard sign that says "100X"  
Assorted rocks  
Makeshift STOP or YIELD signs  
Picture of Rocky (the movie boxer) which can be printed off online

**Why** Matthew 13:1-23

**How** On the stage there are four areas set up. One is the path. Consider a makeshift STOP sign or YIELD sign there. The second is the Rocky area. Place some rocks in a tight circle. Another idea is to have a picture of Rocky, the movie boxer, there. The third area is the Thorns area. The **Thorn** actors are there. The fourth is the good soil area which should be farther downstage from the rest. The 30X, 60X and 100X signs are there, laying flat. **Bird** actors are offstage. **Thorn** actors are all in neutral positions at their location.

Have fun with this and encourage actors to improvise or add to the written stage directions. There are only two speaking roles and the rest are non-speaking. Utilize a variety of ages if you have that flexibility.

**Time** Approximately 4 minutes

At curtain, **Mom** stands center stage. Lined up straight behind her are the eight **Seeds** actors. **Storyteller** enters and starts.

**Storyteller:** (addressing audience) A Mom went out to sow seeds on her land. She was pretty new to this sowing thing and tried her best.

**Mom** advances, making flinging gestures. Two **Seeds** actors go to the path area and freeze. Then two more **Seeds** actors go to the rocky area and freeze. Then two more **Seeds** actors go to the thorn area and freeze. The remaining two **Seeds** actors stay behind **Mom**. **Mom** wanders over to the good soil area, contemplates it, and then makes flinging motions at the soil as the last two **Seeds** actors fall into that area and freeze. **Mom** then looks around and goes back to her original starting position, turns facing the audience and watches.

**Storyteller:** Now, some seeds fell along a path (**Seeds** actors stand up, like they are growing, and seemingly proud of their accomplishments) when Birds came and carried them away! (**Bird** actors swoop in and comically ‘fly’ **Seeds** off stage yelling ‘caw caw’, etc.)

**Storyteller:** Some seeds fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. (**Seeds** actors jump up but pantomiming that the rocks hurt their feet, etc.) They spring up quickly but the soil was shallow and when the sun came up... (**Sun** actor enters and dramatically makes flame motions towards the **Seeds**) the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. (**Seeds** make comically withering sounds... “I’m melting, I’m melting” etc. and fall over, pretending to be dead)

**Storyteller:** Other seeds fell among thorns which grew up and choked the plants. (**Thorn** actors **come up and** actors comically choke the **Seeds**, which then ‘die’ while **Mom** has been watching and wringing her hands) Mom was struggling. Everything she tried to do in raising her seeds was not working. She watched them struggle with being distracted and carried away by the world. Or seeing them struggle with finding ways to fit in and not be diminished and ignored. Or navigating sharp opinions and being swayed away from her. She sighed.

**Mom:** Sigh.

**Jesus** enters and stands right behind **Mom**.

**Storyteller:** But, the Lord came and spoke to her heart (**Jesus** taps **Mom** on shoulder, who jumps up in surprise. **Jesus** mouths he’s sorry for scaring her, and **Mom** relaxes) The Lord then offers lessons on what had happened. (**Mom** and **Jesus** go to the path area) He told her that the seeds that fell on the path represented anyone who heard the message about the kingdom but didn’t understand it, and the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. (**Bird** actors reappear, strutting around but they then see **Jesus** and run away)

**Jesus** and **Mom** go to rocky area.

**Storyteller:** The seeds falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. (**Seeds** give feeble thumbs up) But since they have no root, they last only a short time. (**Seeds** upturned thumbs get turned down) When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

**Jesus** and **Mom** go to thorns area.

**Storyteller:** The seeds falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. (**Seeds** pretend to be OK, then **Thorns** looks at them and threatens to choke them again, and **Seeds** throw their hands up and fall back down)

**Storyteller:** (**Mom** looks down, depressed and dejected. **Jesus** raises her head and takes her to the Good Soil area) Still other seed fell on good soil where it produced a crop good and multiplied. (**Seeds** rise, and wave, and they then hold up the three corresponding signs at each mention) A crop of thirty, (sign) sixty, (sign) or one hundred times, (sign) what was sown. (pause) Whoever has ears, let them hear. (everyone freezes for a few beats. Then **Mom** and **Jesus** unfreeze, **Mom** contemplating the good soil area)

**Storyteller:** Our Mom realized that she had indeed influenced some in a good way, even when she thought she had not. *(to audience)* We all doubt what we are trying to do with those we influence. We second guess. See failures. Lose hope. But be of good cheer. Your efforts. Your steadfastness. Your prayers do make a difference. So, keep sowing and planting. Encourage the growth of strong roots and provide plenty of nourishment and remember the one who and who ultimately makes them grow.

*Jesus points to himself and Mom hugs him.*

*Blackout and curtain.*

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