

## **Planting Seeds**

### ***Mt 13:3b-9 & 18-23: The parable of the sower***

People to mime Farmer, 6 wheat plants, 3 birds, 2 thorns

Narrator: Person 1 and Person 2

*[The mime begins as a separate piece]*

Narrator        There was once a farmer who was planting corn. He tossed some seeds onto a field. Some of the seeds landed on the path. Birds saw these and ate them.

*[Mime: Farmer tosses seeds and birds eat the seeds after he passes then fly off]*

Narrator        Some seeds fell beside the path where the stones were. These grew quickly but could not get to the deep soil. The plants withered and died.

*[Mime: Farmer tosses seeds. The seeds (2 people) spring up quickly but then wither and wilt, collapsing back on to the floor]*

Narrator        Some of the corn seeds fell amongst the thorn seeds. As they the corn grew, the thorns grew also, strangling the young corn plants until they too withered and died.

*[Mime: Farmer tosses seeds. The seeds (2 people) start growing up with the thorns but stop when thorns reach across and strangle them. They wither and hang limp on the thorns.]*

Narrator        Some of the corn seeds though fell on good, deep, loamy soil. These grew strongly and bore full heads of corn, giving lots of grain.

*[Mime: Farmer tosses seeds. The seeds (2 people) growing up into strong plants]*

*[People freeze for five seconds then leave]*

[*Person 1 and 2 now react to the skit*]

Person 1 [Person 1 stands up and makes a challenge] Well, what was the point of that skit. I've seen some poor pieces in my time, but that didn't have a grain of sense in it.

Person 2 But it's obvious – it's all about the good soil!

Person 1 Don't you mean the good oil?

Person 2 No – that was another parable entirely!

Person 1 So, it's about getting your hands dirty and makin' sure you plant your seed in good soil? [*more loudly*] What in Jehosaphat's name has that got to do with him upstairs??

Person 2 Now don't get shirty! It's a metaphor, a parable, a story.

Person 1 Well you're right there mate – it's definitely a story – a very tall one!

Person 2 Well, you need to know what the birds, seeds and thorns represent.

Person 1 [*Quieter in an aside*] I know what the thorns represent – a pain in the backside...just like someone I know.

Person 2 But it's easy – the soil and the path is us – God's people.

Person 1 You mean like “dust-to-dust, ashes to ashes”?

Person 2 No, you're taking it too far now. It's just that when the seed, that is God's Word, fell on the path – it fell on people who refused to believe in it.

Person 1 What about the birds?

Person 2 Well...the birds were just able to take advantage of the seed bouncing around not being able to take root.

Person 1 And the stony ground? The seeds couldn't take root there then?

Person 2 That's right! The soil around the rocks was too shallow – that is, the people took hold of God's Word but didn't let it really change their life.

Person 1 So I guess the thorns is the fellow in red with the horns and tail?

Person 2 He's part of it – but the thorns are our everyday worries and fears.

Person 1 Like whether we can get to the pub after work, or worrying about selling the old bomb? Like it works – and the engine's only been once around the clock...

Person 2 Yeah, and then letting those worries and fears cramp out God – you know, not putting him first

Person 1 So the good soil are those people who hear God's word and put him first in their lives?

Person 2 Now you got it – easy, wasn't it?

Person 1 Yeah...too easy...until you have to **be** the good soil!

[*Person 1 and 2 start walking off*]

Person 2 Ah, well...let me tell you a bit more about this fellow who actually came up with these stories...