

Thinking about....

Jesus' parables

Jesus used stories to teach people about God and his kingdom.

Jesus used stories to teach people. He called the stories "parables", and he used situations that his listeners were familiar with. They often started with these words: "The kingdom of heaven is like..."

At first they just sound like good stories. But they tell you about God and his kingdom too. It's a bit like a picture that you don't realise what it is at first, or a secret message.

One of Jesus' parables was about a farmer who scattered some seeds around.



Some seeds fell on the road - and the birds ate it up.



Some seeds fell on the rocks - so the plants didn't have deep enough roots, and got burned by the sun.



Some seeds fell among the weeds - and the weeds stopped them growing.



And some seeds fell on good ground, and grew into wonderful plants that eventually made even more seeds!



What next?

You could...

- Do a dot-to-dot puzzle, or make your own. Think about how at first it just looked like random dots, then it became a picture. Talk with your grown-up about how Jesus' parables are a bit like that.
- Use pipe cleaners to make some of the things in the farmer parable. Use them to re-tell the story.
- Make a picture of a plant. Use the parable to think about the things it needs to make it grow. Add them to the picture.

