

LESSON PLAN

Lesson Number: 171
Grade Level: 4-6

Date: _____
Title: **Where Do I Stand?/Sower and the Seed**
Text/Story: **Luke 8:4-15**
Main idea: **Those who choose to have receptive heart will hear, understand and bring forth fruit.**
Key Verse: **Ezekiel 3:10**

Time	Activity	Description
	Pre-Lesson Object Lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: potting soil, 4 small flower pots, weeds, rocks, seeds • Fill one flower pot with rocks, one with weeds, and one with good potting soil; leave one pot empty for seeds that fell on the wayside • Discuss what seeds need to sprout and grow; let students decide which of the three flower pots will let seeds grow • Have students plant seeds into each pot and let it sit in the classroom for the weeks to come as a display (be sure to water regularly) • Use this to lead into today's lesson on receiving God's word: make a parallel between seeds/the types of ground and God's word/our hearts
	Lesson Luke 8:4-15 Worksheet: "Doing What You Hear"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: 4 cut-out cardboard/construction paper hearts (size to match the flower pots) • Divide the class into four groups: wayside, rocks, thorns, and good soil • Give each group a heart cut-out and markers; have each group read the verse that pertains to them and write on the paper heart what Jesus said about them • As a class discuss the results together; tape hearts to the flower pots • Emphasize that we must not just hear but also do what God's Word says • Hand out worksheet "Doing What You Hear" and a pencil to each student; they can work individually or in partners • Discuss their answers
	Post-Lesson Crafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: small clay flower pot for each student, seeds, potting soil, permanent markers, paint, etc. • Let students decorate their flower pots with markers or paint, and write today's key verse somewhere on the pots if possible • Have them fill pots with soil and plant their seeds; give them instructions on care of seeds before students take their pots home



DOING WHAT YOU HEAR

Tim, Shannon, Mitch, Liz, Ben and Laura heard God's Word but were not willing to obey. Read what they did. Cross off the wrong behaviour and writing in what they should have done.

1. After learning about obeying parents in Sunday school class, Tim went to the game instead of doing his chores.
2. Shannon decided not to pray when she knew she needed to get saved.
3. When he found a wallet at school, Mitch kept it, forgetting the Golden Rule.
4. Liz doesn't say grace at lunch in the cafeteria -- she is afraid what kids in her class thinks of her.
5. Not "turning the other cheek" like he was supposed to, Ben hurled insults back at the bully who was making fun of him.
6. Laura thinks she doesn't need to forgive her friend for squealing on her, so if she is tempted to get even, she'll do it.

KEY

Lesson #171

DOING WHAT YOU HEAR

Tim, Shannon, Mitch, Liz, Ben and Laura heard God's Word but were not willing to obey. Read what they did. Cross off the wrong behaviour and writing in what they should have done.

1. After learning about obeying parents in Sunday school class, Tim ~~went to the game~~ ^{did his chores} instead ^{of going to} ~~of doing~~ the game. ~~his chores.~~
2. Shannon decided ~~not~~ to pray when she knows she needs to get saved.
3. When he found a wallet at school, Mitch ~~kept it,~~ ^{turned it in} remembering ~~forgetting~~ the Golden Rule.
4. Liz ~~doesn't say~~ ^{says} grace at lunch in the cafeteria -- she is ^{not} afraid what kids in her class thinks of her.
5. ~~Not~~ "Turning the other cheek" like he was supposed to, Ben ~~hurled insults back at~~ ^{ignored (or walked away from)} the bully who was making fun of him.
6. Laura thinks she ~~doesn't need~~ ^{needs} to forgive her friend for squealing on her, so if she is tempted to get even, ~~she'll~~ ^{she won't} do it.

CULTIVATE YOUR HEART

In the parable of the Sower and the seed, our hearts are likened unto ground and God's Word unto seed. Most people do not naturally have ground receptive to God's Word and His ways, nevertheless the seed is sown.

Soil in it's worst condition is hard and trampled upon and full of rocks. What are some of the things that would cause a person to have a heart in this condition?

After breaking through hard layers of ground and sifting through it for stones and rocks, what is left still isn't fertile soil, lots of fertilizer and water will need to be added. What can be done for a person so that he/she can be brought to a point of readiness to hear the Word?

Sometimes soil is in such good condition that everything grows abundantly—even weeds, which can out grow the desired crop. What are some "weeds" in our lives that try to crop up?

The bigger a weed gets, the longer the roots, making it to pull out. When is the best time to pull the the undesirable nuisance? _____

In what way can we keep our hearts from being overcome by weeds?

The best soil and the most diligent grower will provide the conditions for a great harvest. What are some of the things we can do to insure we will have the fruit we were intended to produce?

Proverbs 4:14

Ephesians 6:11

Ephesians 6:18

2 Timothy 2:15

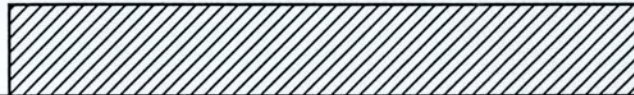
Hebrews 11:6

Revelation 22:14



Testing the Soil

A good farmer can tell the quality of the soil by scooping up a handful and sifting it through his fingers. He knows what needs to be added to that soil to help it produce a good crop. God knows our hearts, and He has promised to supply "all our need" so we can grow as Christians. Complete the following activity, and talk over with your teacher and fellow students why all the words of this verse are so important to the Christian.



Fill in the three important words that are missing from the key verse.

"_____ my words that I shall speak unto thee _____ in thine heart, and _____ with thine ears." — Ezekiel 3:10



What is the meaning of each of those missing words?
Write your definition below.

_____	_____
word	definition
_____	_____
word	definition
_____	_____
word	definition

