

# The Parable of the Land

Good morning teachers, boys and girls,

I begin my speech using a parable (a short and simple story intended to illustrate a moral or religious lesson). It is the Parable of the Land. Jesus Christ used this parable to teach the people in His time.

“ Once there was a farmer who went out to sow (to plant seeds on an area of land in order to grow crops). As he scattered the seeds in the field, some of them fell along the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Some of them fell on rocky ground, where there was little soil. The seeds soon sprouted (began to grow). But when the sun came up, it burnt the young plants, and because the plants had no roots, they soon dried up. Some of the seeds fell among thorns (plants with sharp points on the stems), and the thorns grew and choked them (that is, the thorns prevented the plants from growing). But some seeds fell in good soil, and the plants produced bundles of crops. ”

I am going to explain how we apply the meaning of this parable to our learning.

- (a) Every day, we attend school to learn. Those who learn without studying are like the seeds that fell along the path. As they do not understand what they have learned, the knowledge they gain will be forgotten very soon. That is, the knowledge is like the seeds that are eaten up by birds.

Here, I think you already know the difference between the words ‘learn’ and ‘study’. To learn is to acquire knowledge of a subject or skill. To study is to learn about a particular subject by reading and doing research or experiments. Unless you study what you have learned, you will never understand it.

- (b) The seeds that fell on rocky ground stand for those who learn with pleasure at the beginning of the school year. Yet they have no academic foundation in themselves and they don’t last long. So when examinations come, they give up at once.

(c) The seeds that fell among thorns stand for those who attend school every day, but they spend most of their time in playing and chatting with others. As a result, their time wasting will prevent them from growing.

(d) The seeds sown in the good soil stand for those who learn with pleasure at the beginning of the school year, and study what they have learned from time to time, and understand what they have learned at last. Eventually, they will grow up and become mature.

When Jesus Christ told the Parable of the Land to the people, He concluded, ““ He who has ears, let him hear.” Now, boys and girls, listen : Keep learning in your lives. Keep studying so that you understand what you have learned. You will then be like the seeds that fell in the good soil. May God help you and make you grow to maturity.

Thank you very much.

Have a nice day !