

Capacitación 2: Escuela bíblica vacaciones ~ Training 2: Vacation Bible School

Bible Story: The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Luke 8:5-15

"A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that 'looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.' "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance."

The Plan

We will do an opening “worship” with a song and a prayer. (Andrea and Scot on guitar, Jason on trash can/paint can drum set, Vonda and Linda and Nora leading singing....everyone else join in too!)

We will divide participants into 4 groups. Each group will spend 30 minutes at each station. Stations will be: Bible Story, Arts & Crafts, Music and Recreation. Participants will have questions for each section to help them debrief at the end. If they don't have time for this, that is ok, because Vonda and I will lead an overall discussion at the end of the experience. We might do a break after the first two session rotations—we will look to Pastor Santiago for help with the final structure.

Station 1: Bible Story (Nora, Sara and Karen)

Suggested activities:

- Introduce the idea that Jesus taught using parables or stories
- Use the Bible story picture book to tell the story first (Lawson will draw this)
- Use the Bible and either read or tell Jesus' explanation of the story
- Have the participants do a little drama to act the story out
- Teach a memory verse...reinforce the story by having the students color a sheet that has the memory verse on it. (We will use Pastor Santiago's technique of hanging pictures around the students' necks.)

Station 2: Arts & Crafts (Tim, Linda, Robert, Ellen, Lawson)

We will need to work with Pastor Santiago to see what kinds of things are readily available. The idea is that we will create projects that can easily be re-created in the participants' home communities.

Suggested activities:

- A cross made of corn husks, recycled cardboard heart, dried beans and corn, Bible verse glued to the center
- Plant a seed to take home, or use a wet paper towel, or plant a garden near the church (we will check with Santiago on this)
- Papel picado (cut tissue paper) to decorate the area and fill time for those who finish the project quickly.
- Gift bags for each participant (glue, crayons, tissue paper, etc.)

Station 3: Recreation (Jim, David, Scot, Jeff, Michael)

Depending on the size of the group, maybe 2 activities will need to happen at once with half of the group.

Suggested activities:

- Relay race carrying a seed on a spoon
- Seed sack races
- Pin the leaf on the flower, or petal, or pin the seed in the good dirt
- Other standard fun games such as human knot, relay races, games with a soccer ball

Station 4: Music (Jason, Vonda, Andrea, Gail)

- Soy semilla...soy candela...etc. (Salvadoran version of This Little Light)
- Seed songs from the Salvadoran hymnal plus children's songs (Vonda and Linda are making selections)
- Favorite songs we use, translated (Praise the Lord with Trumpet Sounds)

Snack ideas

Watermelon (it has seeds!)