LESSON 21

THE SEED AND THE SOIL



Aim: **To show the children how different people receive God's message in different ways. (The same as for Lesson 20).**

Scripture Reading: **Luke 8:11–15**

Memory Verse: **John 1:14b**

We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Complete last week's verse.

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

If the children were able to do the activity with the little plots, a look at these would be a good beginning. If you made your own experiment in the box tray, show it to the class.

If neither of these possibilities worked out, you could just bring along the four types of soil you prepared for the introduction of Lesson 20 to remind the class: dry path, rock, weeds or thorns, and good soil.

Which type of soil, do you think, will produce good crops?

Main Points of the Lesson

1. **Show Picture 20 and remind the children that the story was about the type of people who came to listen to Jesus.** Jesus wanted them to understand that he was like a sower spreading the Word of God among them. The Word is like a seed that falls on different types of soil, depending on how people receive God's message (Lk 8:11).
2. **Show Picture 21 and point to the dry path on the cardboard visual aid.** Tell me, how do people like this receive God's message? In the story the birds quickly peck up the seed; in the same way the devil makes people forget God's Word, so that they won't believe and be saved (8:12).
3. **Teach the meaning of each type of soil. Point to each one illustrated in the picture:**

(a) The seed that falls on rocky ground cannot take root; this is like people who listen to the Word and believe it, but then give in when any opposition or temptation comes their way (8:13).

Look,Listen&Live_Book7.indd 50 2012/09/07 15:09 PM



(b) The plants that come up among thorns or weeds cannot prosper. This is like people who do believe, but their faith dies because they spend their energy on worries and acquiring riches (8:14).

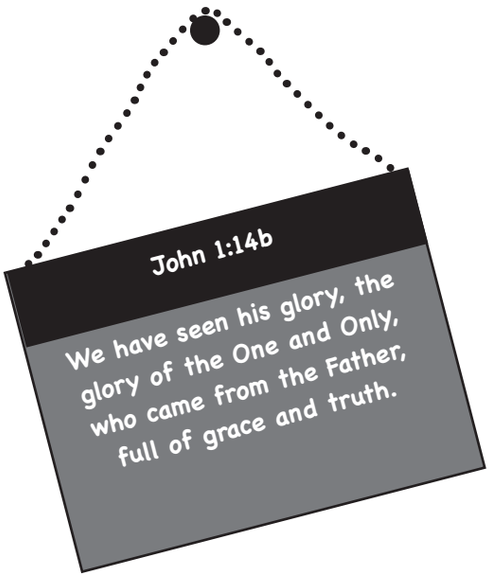
(c) The seed that falls on good ground yields a good crop; this is like people who believe and obey God's Word, and win other people for Christ (8:15).

Our Response to the Story

Jesus said he taught the people by telling them stories, so that those who really wanted to, would take the trouble to find out what he meant. God's Word is precious and we must take it seriously. If we really want to know what God wants to say to us, he will show us. However, if we are not sincere, God's message will be like a closed book to us and we shall not understand it. We shall be like the first three types of soil – quite useless (8:9-10).

Come let us pray and ask God to help us understand the Bible, so that we may receive the seed of his Word like the good soil.

Instil the Memory Verse



Look,Listen&Live_Book7.indd 51 2012/09/07 15:09 PM