

## LETTER FROM A KIDS CHURCH LEADER

Hi everyone, I hope that you are all enjoying having no proper school and are enjoying all of this free time that we now have. We miss hearing all about what you have been up to, but make sure to keep sharing your pictures of your crafts and any of the fun things that you have been doing at home. We would love to see what you have been up to!

When I was growing up, I always loved planting sunflowers and watching to see how tall they would grow. This is a picture of me when I was in Kids Church with a 7 foot sunflower in my back garden.



For the sunflower to grow the seed had to be planted in good soil, watered and looked after. This week we are looking at the parable of the sower to find out what happens when seed falls on different ground and what we can learn from that. We want you to know, just as my sunflower seed was planted in good soil and was able to have strong roots and grow tall so we too must listen to God's Word and grow up to be the kind of boys and girls he wants us to be. I challenge you if you can to see whether you can grow a sunflower as tall as mine!

From,

Ben, Katie, Nikki, Mark, Abigail, Judith, Ruth, Lois and John!

### Challenge:

"But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it." Matthew 23:13 (NIV – because we know you love to add that in!)

This verse is the from our story today. It is a great reminder to read your bible and understand what it means for your life everyday. Why don't you memorise it and challenge your family to remember as well?

### Sing-A-Long:

Here's a song to sing and do some actions with, why don't you get the family involved?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKkblZtghyQ>

### Bible Story:

For the month of May, we are going to learn about parables in the bible. We are looking at the Parable of the Sower which can be found in Matthew 13:1-23. Read the story and watch the video below:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZEO\\_Ls2ERs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZEO_Ls2ERs)



If you are like Ben and you enjoy planting sunflowers, or anything that you are able to grow, you will know that the type of ground that a seed is scattered on is very important. The parable today shows us what happens when a seed lands on four different types of ground. The seed in our lives is God's word and the four areas of land are examples of how our hearts respond to God's word.

*Path:* We hear God's word but don't react or do anything with it, our hearts are hard.

*Rocky Ground:* There is no strong foundation and God's word does not grow in our life.

*Thorns:* We listen and accept God's word but get caught up in the distractions of the world.

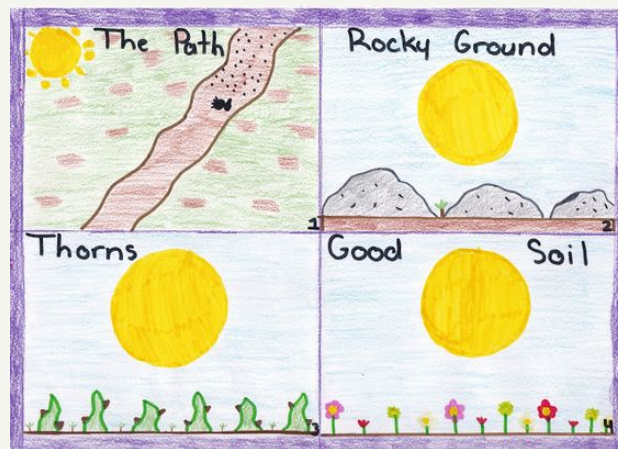
*Good Soil:* Our hearts have listened and accepted God's word and because we have strong roots or foundations, we grow up strong and produce fruit.

The Sower in this parable is willing to scatter the seeds on any ground. God is the sower and He will scatter His word for everyone, but it is up to us how it grows in our life.

### **Craft:**

Today you are going to create your very own story book to remind you to read and understand God's word. Writing and drawing will help you to understand the story.

What you will need: Paper/Card, colouring pencils, scissors and cello tape/glue/stapler.



1. Cut your A4 paper/card into four rectangles.
2. Draw the areas that the farmer scattered the seeds: Path, rocky ground, thorns and good soil. Be creative! Make sure to leave a bit of space on the left of the page where the book will be stuck together.
3. Get a new piece of paper/card and cut into four rectangles (only two are needed).
4. With one of the rectangles, create your front cover. Be creative!
5. With the other rectangle, write out what it means for us if the seed falls on the path, rocky ground, thorns and good soil.
6. Now get your glue/stapler/cello tape and put the book together, using the small gap on the left of each rectangle to stick together.
7. We would love to see your creations, please take a photo and sent it to [steven@railwaystreet.org](mailto:steven@railwaystreet.org)



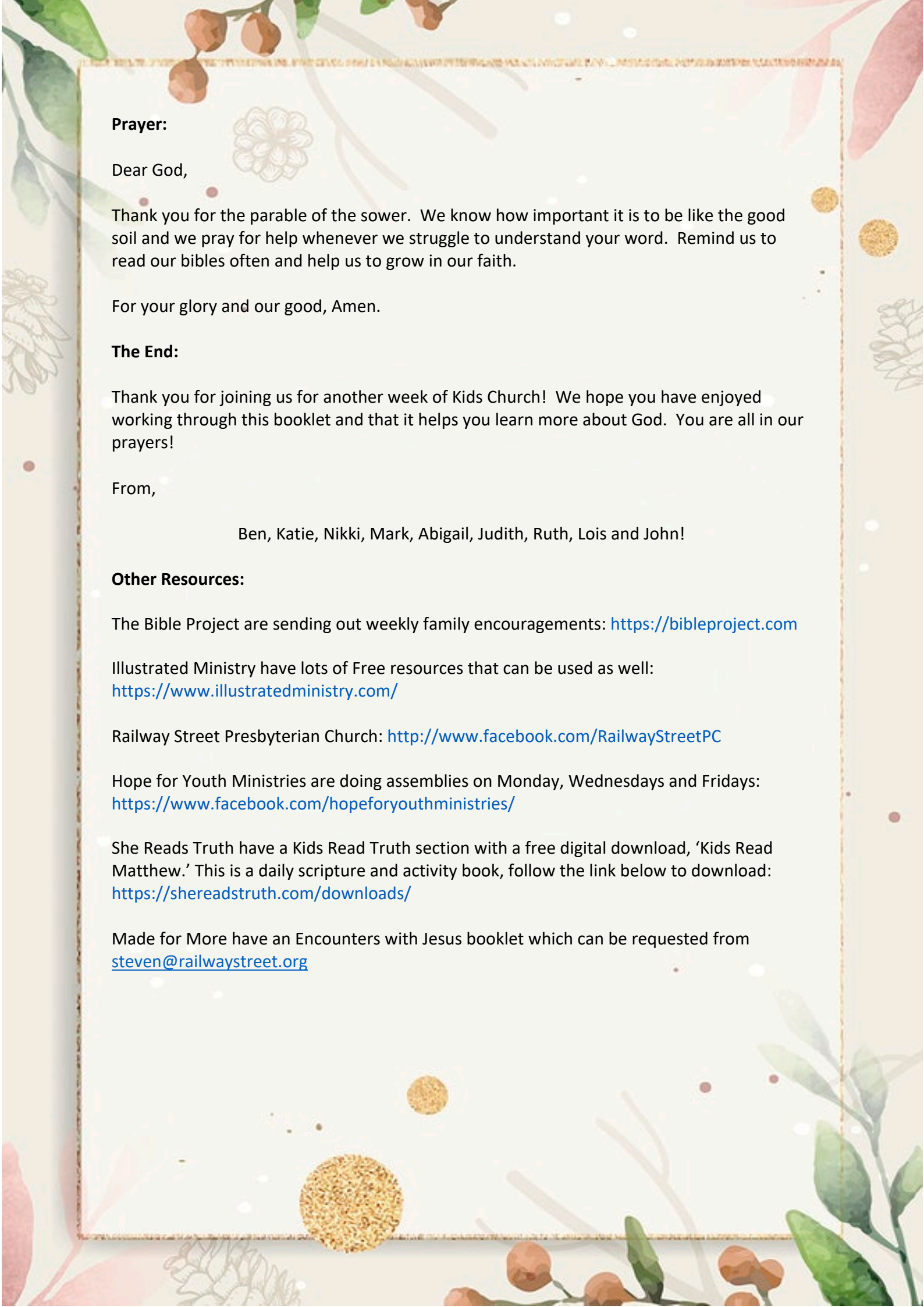
**Worksheet:**

A	D	N	B	L	P	W	W	C	F	V	B	B	H	L
P	L	H	M	S	E	E	D	I	H	A	R	U	R	G
R	Q	D	G	R	A	S	D	O	T	O	R	M	V	G
O	W	X	G	P	V	C	T	X	I	H	K	M	L	P
O	N	V	O	J	S	A	H	B	S	V	E	E	E	B
T	E	R	E	T	D	T	O	J	O	X	J	R	D	R
P	C	G	N	W	S	T	R	U	I	X	Y	O	R	O
F	F	A	O	I	E	E	N	V	L	K	O	F	E	M
N	L	S	N	I	Z	R	S	W	C	G	I	K	E	C
P	P	B	I	R	D	S	O	O	S	B	Q	L	H	Q
K	O	W	B	Z	P	L	R	S	C	A	B	X	T	S
P	P	J	S	D	L	Y	T	R	O	A	E	I	R	L
C	A	R	U	A	N	A	L	X	R	F	G	J	L	T
Z	E	T	H	C	G	T	L	A	C	V	O	E	L	M
K	Z	S	H	W	J	R	P	W	H	M	F	Y	Y	Z

PLANTS	SCORCH	FARMER	THORNS	CROP
WITHER	BIRDS	ROOT	CHOKE	SOIL
FELL	PARABLE	SCATTER	SEED	GREW
ROCKY	SHALLOW	GOOD	SOW	PATH

**Question:** What are some of the things that you can do to make sure you are like the good soil and you listen and understand God's word? Draw some examples below:



A decorative border featuring various floral and leaf motifs in shades of green, pink, and orange, surrounding the central text area.

### **Prayer:**

Dear God,

Thank you for the parable of the sower. We know how important it is to be like the good soil and we pray for help whenever we struggle to understand your word. Remind us to read our bibles often and help us to grow in our faith.

For your glory and our good, Amen.

### **The End:**

Thank you for joining us for another week of Kids Church! We hope you have enjoyed working through this booklet and that it helps you learn more about God. You are all in our prayers!

From,

Ben, Katie, Nikki, Mark, Abigail, Judith, Ruth, Lois and John!

### **Other Resources:**

The Bible Project are sending out weekly family encouragements: <https://bibleproject.com>

Illustrated Ministry have lots of Free resources that can be used as well:  
<https://www.illustratedministry.com/>

Railway Street Presbyterian Church: <http://www.facebook.com/RailwayStreetPC>

Hope for Youth Ministries are doing assemblies on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays:  
<https://www.facebook.com/hopeforyouthministries/>

She Reads Truth have a Kids Read Truth section with a free digital download, 'Kids Read Matthew.' This is a daily scripture and activity book, follow the link below to download:  
<https://shereadstruth.com/downloads/>

Made for More have an Encounters with Jesus booklet which can be requested from  
[steven@railwaystreet.org](mailto:steven@railwaystreet.org)