



## The Fields of .....*your town name*

### INTRODUCTION

This is an application of the Parable of the sower to modern day life. The narrative is read first and then the interpretation is enacted by way of application.

This drama requires 2 or three readers and six actors, most of them having small parts, but their punch lines need good expression.

### THE DRAMA

*Optional start with video of tractor and corn drill sowing corn in a field, including sound.*

#### **Narrator**

*Voice over the video near its end by reading of the parable of the sower, only the sowing part, not the interpretation.*

Mathew Chapter 13

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop, a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. To those who have ears, please hear."

#### **Commentator**

Let's meet Farmer Brown

*Then enter Farmer Brown (getting off his tractor, if you have a creative way of representing a tractor), suitably dressed wearing wellies, hat, rough walking stick etc. walks across stage – if he can whistle as he goes, better still.*

#### **Farmer Brown**

What a great year it's been for growing corn .... Just the right balance between rain and sunshine.... The yield should be great this time. I have sown corn all over my land, down to the last corner and now the combine harvester is harvesting and shortly I will see the results – I can't wait to see how well each part of my land has done.

*He should then take a position where he doesn't seem like a 'spare tool' on stage ~ suggestion, sitting a bit to the side ~ chair and picnic table ~ appearing to take stock of his crops. Each of the following people who enter walk over to him and they shake hands. They could pretend to chat while the commentator reads their intro piece.*

#### **Commentator**

Let's meet Farmer Brown's friends, so first up is Simon Stone

*Enter Simon Stone (person with a few egg size beach stones in his hand which he plays with from hand to hand intermittently)*

**Farmer Brown**

Hello Simon *(Simon reciprocates, they shake hands)*

So how did you get on since last Spring?

**Simon:**

Well.....I didn't let any of that seed have any effect on me .... you see I'm a bit too cool for that sort of thing .... I hear it, it's good but it's not for me.

**Commentator**

Simon is a macho guy who likes people to see how well he has things together and he has intelligent opinions on most subjects. He is good but cool. God's word, yes, it's not smart to come across as spiritually motivated; Simon decides what is right for Simon. He is his own person, you know.

*Simon gets up and starts to walk across stage and is stopped in his tracks by FB comment*

**FB**

Well, that yield was pretty useless – I'll not waste my seed on that bit of land again

**Simon** *(turning to face the audience - this needs to be done in a dramatic tone of in an attitude of self realisation) Have I become immune to God's word and my ears closed to His voice?? A heart of stone? (he drops a couple of stones to the ground, hopefully on a surface where they make an effective noise to emphasize his words; he freezes for a few seconds to allow the impact of the last to resonate)*

**Narrator** *(need to practice cueing with Simon to achieve impact)*

To those who have ears, please hear."

**Commentator** *(after another slight pause)*

Now here comes Belinda Bubble *(who enters, skipping light-heartedly and carrying a large balloon, made to convey an impression of a bubble ~ and shakes hands with Farmer Brown and as before, they greet each other – vary the greeting a little).*

**FB** *(after greeting)*

So, do you have some result for me?

**Belinda**

Yes, great seed – I love hearing it – like 'tell me the old, old story often' ... I love to hear it but I don't seem to be able to hold onto it.

**Commentator**

Belinda is a delightful person ~ she gets so enthusiastic, but unfortunately it fades. She embraces God's word gladly and gets excited about the difference this is going to make in her life. But the Sunday feeling soon gives way to the Monday morning syndrome.

*Belinda gets up to walk off and like Simon reacts when she hears FB*

**FB**

I've tried seed there before but it comes to nothing – I wonder should I bother next year.

**Belinda** *(turning to face the audience)*

Do I just get motivated into good intentions but get deflated easily? *(FB discreetly pin pricks the balloon immediately; the bang should get audience attention! ~ stage positioning is important so this happens very discretely)*

**Narrator** *(after a short pause to allow the impact of the last to settle)*

To those who have ears, please hear.

**Commentator** *(after another slight pause)*

And then there's the Under-Pressures. *(Enter Peter and Paula, This interaction needs to happen somewhat frantically to convey a couple so busy with their lives that they can't stop for a moment – opportunity for a little comedy)*

**FB**

Ah, Peter and Paula, I'm sure you will have good results for me

**Peter** *(so taken up with things that he hardly notices or responds to FB)*

Good morning *(said with a brief glance at FB and immediately continues conversation with his wife)* - about that holiday we looked at, what do you think?

**Paula**

Yes, go ahead and book it and also, what about changing the car....but I must rush now, I've a golf lesson in 20 minutes and....*(FB tries to interject)*

**FB**

Guys....guys.....helloooo

**Paula** *(continuing almost non-stop)*

Yes, I hear you *(said to FB and turning immediately to Peter)* darling, will you pick up the kids *(she takes a few practice shots with a golf club and moves off stage in the process while Peter gets out his mobile phone moving restlessly and starts a conversation with his boss and fades it while)*

**Commentator**

Peter and Paula Under-Pressure have a good functional family, themselves and three children, who have all the privileges their parents can manage. They attend church, sometimes get to the prayer meeting and contribute financially. Then there's a career, the house, hobbies, two cars, social circle, church ministry, holiday home etc. to be enjoyed and looked after....

**Peter** fades back in with 'Look, I'm just too busy' and 'Sorry, I just don't have the time' – *be careful they don't upstage one another.)*

**Commentator**

All very good stuff. But my, it seems to absorb large amounts of energy; sometimes they are just flat out.

**FB**

Phew! They've followed a different god – either I take serious corrective measures with that land or abandon it to its own weeds

**Peter** (*stops abruptly at these words as if they hit him hard*)

Paula...Paula (*she appears back on stage*)

Did you hear that?

**Peter to Paula**, *both turning to face each other and the congregation,*

Have we developed a life-style that leaves no energy to really carry through on God's word to our lives??

**Narrator** (*after a short pause to allow the impact of the last to settle*)

To those who have ears, please hear.

**Commentator** (*after another slight pause*)

And finally, Sabrina Servant (*enter Sabrina, wearing T-shirt with attached logo Servant Heart*).

She and her husband have adjusted their family values so they can embrace God's word for them and prioritize life so they can live out what God has for them.

**Commentator**

Well done, good and faithful servant. (*she shakes hands with FB*)

**Sabrina** (*turning to face audience – Sabrina could be the same person as did the Narrator piece*)

To those who have ears, please hear.....and act!

This can lead into a song and our suggestion would be 'From the breaking of the dawn/I will stand on every promise of your word. Make sure your licence covers playing this over your PA system.

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