

was shallow. Here it grew quickly, but because it had no roots, the hot sun soon withered it.

Some seeds fell among thorns which grew up and choked the tender plants to death.

But some fell on good ground—well-ploughed land—and yielded a splendid harvest, to pay the farmer for his trouble.

When the people had gone Jesus told his disciples the meaning of the story.

The different kinds of ground are pictures of four kinds of hearts. The seed is the word of God.

The man who pays no heed to God's message has the "wayside" heart, where Satan snatches away the truth as soon as it is heard. The "stony ground" heart has no roots, and is willing to please Jesus only when it is easy and pleasant.

The "thorny ground" heart has no room for Jesus' love. It is too busy with other things and God is pushed right out.

But the good heart, like the good ground, will bring forth good fruit, some more, some less, but all pleasing to God who will some day gather in His harvest.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is a parable? Ans. A story with a heavenly meaning. 2. Where was Jesus when He told the parable of the sower? Ans. In a boat speaking to the people on shore. 3. On what kinds of poor soil did seed fall? Ans. On the pathway, on stony ground and among thorns. 4. Where did the farmer's crop come from? Ans. From good ground. 5. What are the four kinds of soil pictures of? Ans. Of four kinds of

hearts. 6. What is a careless heart like? Ans. The wayside ground. 7. What is an unwilling heart like? Like stony ground. 8. What does the thorny ground mean? Ans. A heart too busy for God. 9. Like what is the good ground? Ans. Like the heart which loves and serves Jesus. 10. Who will gather in the harvest? Ans. God. 11. What is the good seed? Ans. Golden text: The seed is the word of God.

My Garden

My heart is God's little garden
Which I must keep with care;
No naughty thoughts or angry deeds
Must ever enter there.

There's a fence around the garden
To be built of faith and prayer.
May the seeds of the Master's planting
Bear fruit and blossoms fair!

I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY TO

Hear and Obey God's Word

Primary Catechism—90. Which is the eighth commandment?

The eighth commandment is, "Thou shalt not steal."

Shorter Catechism—22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Lesson Hymn

Do no sinful action,
Speak no angry word,
Ye belong to Jesus,
Children of the Lord.

Christ is your own Master,
He is good and true,
And his little children
Must be holy too.

Amen.

—Hymn 529, Book of Praise