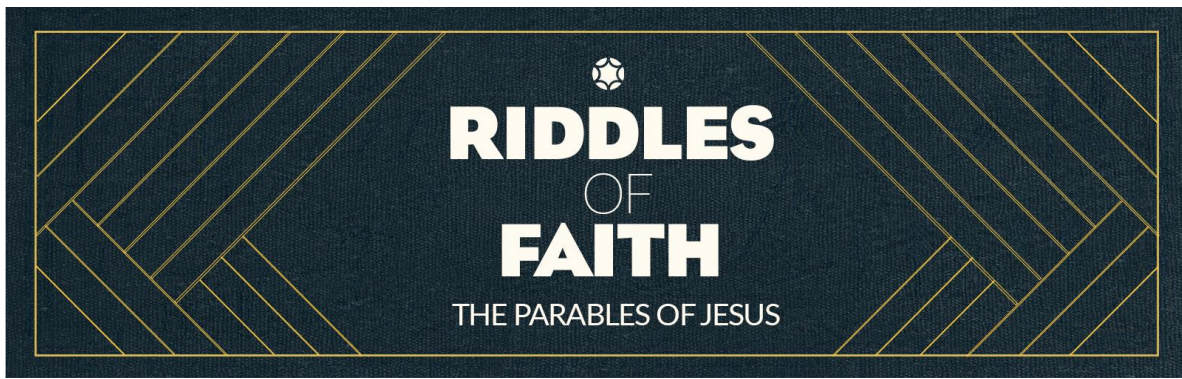




Riddles at Home
Family Companion Guide
Week Two // Sow What?

Start with a Riddle

What has lots of ears but cannot hear?

[Answer: A cornfield!]

Big Idea

The condition of our hearts affects how we receive God's Word. Jesus wants his truth to take root in us and change how we live.

Read Together

Read Mark 4:1–20. Jesus describes four places where the farmer's seed lands: a hard path, rocky ground, thorny ground, and good soil. The seed represents God's Word, and the different soils represent the different ways our hearts can respond to it.

Talk About It

- What happened to the seed in each kind of soil?
- Which soil allowed the seed to grow and produce a crop?
- What are some things that can distract us from listening to God?
- How can we prepare our hearts to receive God's Word?

Good soil represents a heart that listens to God, trusts his Word, and responds with obedience.

Try It Together

Let each person complete this sentence:

One thing that sometimes keeps me from listening to God is
_____.

Then name one way your family can create space to listen to God this week. It might be reading the Bible together, praying before school, turning off devices, or talking about what you learned at church.

Remember This

"Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop." Mark 4:20

Pray Together

God, make our hearts good soil. Remove the distractions and worries that keep us from listening. Help your Word take deep root in us and produce the good fruit of love, faith, and obedience. Amen.

Keep It Going

Choose an activity to enjoy together:

- Plant some seeds: Plant inexpensive seeds in a cup or small pot. Place them near a window and watch their progress throughout the series.
- Go on a soil hunt: Look for hard, rocky, thorny, and healthy soil around your yard or neighborhood. Talk about what might grow in each place.
- Pull some weeds: Work together in the yard or garden. Discuss how worries and distractions can crowd out what God wants to grow in us.
- Make a "dirt" dessert: Use chocolate pudding, crushed cookies, and gummy worms. Retell the parable while you enjoy it.