



A Faith Proclaimin' Story About THE SOWER

Story Content and Presentation:

This story is designed to affirm the Sower as a symbolic participant in the proclamation of God's story. It is based on the Parable of the Sower in Matthew 3:3-9 and 18-23 and honors its characterization of an evangelist as seeds of faith are planted and the full range and risks of growth are acknowledged..

The presentation is set within the creative context of a "live" TV program entitled "The Proclamation Station." A bumbling, dramatic, well-intending MC named O-me-o-miah sets the stage for the story and introduces two seeds sitting on top of a seed bag as the primary storytellers who go on to give deeper meaning and understanding to this text.

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Puppets are recommended to portray the seed characters. Scan the script and recruit 3 older children, youth or adults to play the role of O-me-o-miah ("O") and serve as puppeteers for two seed characters.. Note also the preparations necessary for presentation highlighted below.



Download the script for this story presentation.

Setting the Stage:

Design a closet or entryway door to represent a large Bible. Completely cover one side of a door with a roll of black construction paper. Print a cross just above the center of the door and place the word "BIBLE" underneath it. The door will set the stage for the presentation of the story. You will most likely need the following supplies:

- A roll of black cloth or construction paper
- Gold or white wrapping paper, contact paper or poster board
- Scissors
- Masking tape
- White poster board

If you re choosing to share these Bible story presentations on a regular basis, you may wish to also create a "Table of Contents" with a listing of all the books in the Old and New Testament to mark the place of the proclaimers as you feature them.

You might also wish to set up a timeline of faith proclaimers to recognize their placement throughout history. See Guidelines for FPBN Timeline in the [Proclamation Station program outline](#).

The thematic art for the Grand Central Proclamation Station is also available to display. Download the 4-color file and print it out on a transparency. Then, use an overhead projector to enlarge it on a wall. You might also have the design printed on a cloth or plastic banner for long-term use.

Props and Accessories:

- A seed bag puppet stage. See the Backstage Preparation sheet for guidelines and supplies.
- Two seed puppets. See the Puppet Instruction sheet for simple guidelines and necessary supplies.
- A costume for a silent gardener which might consist bib overalls and a straw hat. Accessories might include a hoe and a hose or a watering can. O-me-o-miah's costume is intended to be his trademark throughout the many story presentations - A suit and tie, covered with an open bathrobe (to honor the Biblical and modern worlds with which he relates). A flat top Styrofoam hat might also top off his or her personality.
- A stool for O-me-a-miah
- Microphone with a long, tangled cord

Discussion Questions:

Following the story presentation, you may wish to engage your audience or participants in a discussion using the following questions as a guide.

Questions for Clarification:

1. Use the Proclaimin' Roles to Play sheet as an easy reference for identifying the role of an evangelist. How is the role of a prophet described in this story presentation?
2. What do the seeds symbolize? (The word of God What does the soil symbolize? are the various

Questions for Interpretation:

1. How is sharing God's story and words of love like planting seeds. Talk a little bit about how earthly soils might be compared to the hearts of those you might share, e.g. some are open to hearing and receiving it and some are absolutely not.
2. Ert, the seed talks about his reluctance to share faith with people who may not want to hear about it. Bernie, reminds him that it's not about him, but what God would like to do through him. Share stories about your experience with both perspectives.

Activity Suggestion:

Scan through the variety of crafts and activities available in an intergenerational outline entitled "The Good Soil Garden Center." Play the board game "Soil Surveys" to help children, youth and adults interpret the Parable of the Sower in their own context.