

# The Sower -n- Some Seeds

- O:** Hello- Hello! (*Taps the head of the microphone*) Testing! Testing 1-2-3! Can you hear me?! (*Struggles to figure out a way to untangle the cord*) Oh me! Oh My! Here we go again! Why-why-WHY does this keep happening to me?! (*Sets down the mike and with a deep sigh, regains his composure and greets the audience.*) Hello there! My name's O-me-o-miah – for obvious reasons - n- I'm here to pay tribute to a faith proclaimer known more for who he represents than what he actually does. Today we're going to open the door to a parable in book of Matthew and explore the varied terrain an evangelist encounters as he or she sows seeds of faith.  
Let's go now to Sower – in fact I brought a few seeds to share with him (*Holds up a bag of sun flower seeds!*) (*Opens Bible stage and looks inside*) Hello...Uh, Mister/Ms. Sower?!! Hmmm...
- E:** Hey - you! Over here! He/She had to head on out to sow a few more seeds. So we're supposed to stand in for 'em.
- O:** (*Sees two big seeds named Bernie and Ert are sitting on the top of a seed bag at the Good Soil Garden Center.*) Well, I'll be- you just never know what kind of help you're going to get these days.... (*Looks out to see the Sower*) Hey- I see em. I think I'll just head on over there and have a chat. (*Exits*)
- B:** Suit yourself. (*Moves over to the side of the seed bag and takes a look over the edge before speaking.*) Uh, Ert, could you come over here for a sec?
- E:** Sure, Bernie. I'll be right over. (*Moves over next to Bernie.*)
- B:** Have you ever taken a look down there?
- E:** Yup. It's a long way down, Bernie.

- B:** It kind of makes me wonder what we're doin' up here.
- E:** Well, that's easy one, Bernie! We're sitting on top of a giant seed bag.
- B:** Uh...what are we doing that for, Ert?
- E:** Well, Bernie, it might have something to do with the fact – WE'RE SEEDS!
- B:** SEEDS?!
- E:** Take a look at the sign. (*They both lean over the edge to take a look at the sign on the front of the bag.*)
- B:** I can hardly read it, Ert! (*He reads the sign backwards*) "DEES DRATSUM." That doesn't even sound like something you'd put on a seed bag!
- E:** It does if you're looking at it this way. (*Turns sideways and reads it*). It says, "Mustard Seed."
- B:** Wow! Then I REALLY MUST BE a seed!
- E:** What else would you be, Bernie?
- B:** Well, the last time I looked, I was a little brown football. Sitting around just waiting for some action!
- E:** Well, get ready, Bernie, 'cuz one of these days you're gonna get plenty of action!
- B:** I am? Uh, what kind of action, Ert?
- E:** It's gonna be an amazing adventure. In fact, it's going to be so amazing - it'll be life changing!
- B:** Life-changing?
- E:** Just picture this! Someday, you're going to go flying through the air with all the other seeds and you're going to end up somewhere - out there!
- B:** Out there?
- E:** Down there!
- B:** Down there?
- E:** Yup, it could be anywhere!
- B:** (*Bernie looks down and around the side of the sack*) Uh...if its all the same to you, Ert, I think I'll just stay right here.
- E:** Nope, sorry! Can't do!
- B:** Why not?
- E:** Because, it's not up to YOU!!!!
- B:** Then, who?
- E:** God!
- B:** God? Is He in charge of seed bags, too?
- E:** Yup! Everything up here, down there and

everywhere! God, the Maker of All Things, has a master plan for all things!

- B:** Including me?
- E:** Including YOU and me and EVERYTHING!
- B:** Well, if it's all the same to the Maker of All Things, I think I'd rather just sit right here than try to settle-in out there somewhere.
- E:** Oh, you won't be just be settling in! You'd be growing something new!
- B:** But what if I end up on that hard ground over there. I'll be "toast" for those big black birds! And, and, if I end up over there in those weeds, I'll never come out alive! And, and...
- E:** And, if you get stuck in those rocks you'll never take root!
- B:** Thanks for adding to the good news, there, Ert. (*Pauses for a moment*) Hey, Ert, did you know that your name rhymes with dirt? Hee, hee.
- E:** Very funny! Ha, ha, ha ... Bernie! In fact, it's funny you should mention it, because THAT'S really what we're talking about!
- B:** Uh, what are we talking about, Ert?
- E:** Dirt!
- B:** Dirt?
- E:** Yes, Bernie, its all a part of that master plan! We need dirt to become all that God needs us seeds to be!
- B:** But what does dirt have to do with planting seeds of faith, Ert?
- E:** It's just another way of talking about the hearts of those who hear God's Word.
- B:** Oh, well then...I'd just like to know what I'm getting myself into, Ert!
- E:** Let me take a moment to clue you in! The good soil is the best!
- B:** Will it be a softer landing place?
- E:** It's supposed to be warm and welcoming and...uh...Bernie! It's not about you!
- B:** It isn't ?
- E:** Nope. It's about what God intends to do through you!
- B:** Well, how am I supposed to know that! I'm just a little mustard seed!
- E:** Well, the Maker of All Things says that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

**B:** He does?!

**E:** Yup! 'Cuz when a seed of God's Word is planted in people's hearts it can grow to become like the hugest shrub or tree!

**B:** *(Uses gestures to illustrate)* No way, Ert! A great big tree in a little heart? It'll never fit!

**E:** The tree doesn't actually grow in the heart, Bernie. It's just an example of how amazing God's kingdom or family can be! It's all part of something called a parable.

**Gardener:** *(Enters with a hoe, a hose or a watering can. He begins to chop up the dirt around the seed bag.)*

**B:** Hey, Ert, look at that guy over there! *(They move their "bodies" to face the gardener.)*

**E:** He looks like the gardener who prepares the soil for us.

**B:** Well, I hope he gets done before we get there!

**E:** Don't worry! The Maker of All Things works through the caring hearts and hands of many people long before God plants a single seed of faith.

**B:** Hey Ert! It looks like that gardener is coming over here!

**E:** Whoa! I think it's time for all that action you've been waiting for!!

**B:** Are they going to send us out into the world now?

**E:** Yup!

**B:** O-o-o-o-ok, Ert! I think I got enough faith for a mustard seed! *(Pauses for a moment and takes a big breath)* Lord...Help me try to grow a great big garden-full of mustard trees or....

**E:** ...or how about a kingdom-full of all kinds of faith-filled people who can all be a part of God's great big family!

*(As Ert says his final words, and just before Bernie says his final lines, the gardener and the puppeteers tip the stage/seed sack and the seeds fly off the sack!)*

**B:** Come on Ert! Let's hit the dirt!

**O:** Well! Who needs a gardener when you've got such willing seeds! *(Closes the Bible backdrop door)* Let's just call it a day at the Proclamation Station as we keep lookin' for ways to Name! Claim! and Proclaim God's Story!