



## In-Home Worship (Personal/Family)

## THE SOWER & HIS SEED

*Greetings from TLC! Thank you for downloading this resource and making the effort to practice Christian faith in your home. You will never regret it. May God bless you as you grow in your life with Jesus Christ!*

**All: O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank You for this day You have made! As we come to worship, please open our hearts to all Your great mercies that are new with each morning, that we may turn from our sins, trust in Christ our Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen!**

***For the fruits of His creation, thanks be to God.  
For His gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.***

***In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring, for the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.***

*Make a sign of the cross (nose, belly button, nose, left ear, right ear, nose) to remember your baptism. Dip your hand in water if you choose. Your sins are washed away. You have the Holy Spirit. You are a child of God!*

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made;

Leader: From the rising of the sun

Leader: the name of the Lord

Leader: All who believe and are baptized

Leader: Baptized into the death of Christ,

**All: let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**All: to the place where it sets,**

**All: is to be praised!**

**All: shall see the Lord's salvation.**

**All: they are a new creation!**



*Take a moment in quiet reflection to confess your sins. Remember that silence is a great blessing for time with God.*

**All: Almighty God, please have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Leader: Because of God's great mercy, Jesus Christ was sent in order to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus, He gives the grace to become His own children and grants them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord continue His good work within us!

**All: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious,

Leader: As high as the heavens are above the earth,

Leader: as far as the east is from the west,

**All: slow to anger, abounding in love!**

**All: so great is His love for those who fear Him,**

**All: so far has He removed our sins from us!**

**All: 1. You shall have no other gods. 2. You shall not take God's name in vain. 3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 4. Honor your father and your mother. 5. You shall not murder. 6. You shall not commit adultery. 7. You shall not steal. 8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. 10. You shall not covet anything else that belongs to your neighbor.**

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Leader: Let us pray a blessing on God's Holy Word:

**All: Lord, thank You for the gift of grace that is Your Word. Help us to listen, learn, and grow. Holy Spirit, You are welcome here! Please accomplish Your work in us today. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

From the Bible, read **Mathew 13:1-9**. If gathered as a family, consider reading verse-by-verse.

## Think/Talk About It



1. In this passage, Jesus tells a “parable” (which means “story”). Why do you think Jesus loved to teach by telling stories?
2. What happens to most of the seed that the farmer sows in Jesus' story? Does it produce a crop or not? Why do you think the farmer sows his seed in this way?
3. Turn to Matthew 13:18-23. What does Jesus mean when He teaches about the seed that falls on the path, rocky ground, among thorns, and in the good soil?
4. Who are the people who have helped you hear, understand, and believe God's Word and the Good News of Jesus? Who is someone else that you can help to do the same? What's a practical way for you to do that?

**All: Lord, we give You today what is already Yours, because You have given Your all for us. Help us to give our lives in return- our time, talents, and treasures- out of love for You and the sake of Your work in the world. Help us be cheerful givers today. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Take time to pray to God. Remember the “2 Best Prayers We Know: ‘Thank You for...’ and ‘Please help...’.”*

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Leader: God is good! **All: All the time!** Leader: And all the time- **All: God is good!**

Leader: Let us bless the Lord! **All: Thanks be to God!** Leader: Go in peace! **All: Serve the Lord! Amen.**

***Almighty Father, bless the Word which through Your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root, spring up, and bear abundant fruit!***

***We praise You for the means of grace as homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here may all at last in heaven appear.***

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***



## OPTIONAL FAMILY ACTIVITY: SOIL & SEED WALK

Try your best to “live out” Jesus' parable in a fun way! Give each member of your family some seeds and then take a walk outside to find a place where you can “sow” those seeds on the four different types of soil (path, rocky places, among thorns, and good soil) that Jesus taught about in today's Bible reading. As you find each spot, discuss with your family what you think will happen to those seeds and why.