## **THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

"A farmer went out to plant his field; some of his seeds fell on the road and the people who passed by stepped on them and the birds ate them. Other seeds fell where there were many stones; the plants sprouted, but soon died because they had no water. Others fell among thorns; the plants sprouted, but the thorns choked them and didn't let them grow. The rest of the seeds fell on good soil; the plants sprouted, grew and produced a crop that produced a hundred times more than what was planted."

"Look! Jesus is coming!" shouted a villager.

"And I see that some of our neighbors are already with him. Let's go so we can hear what he's saying."

Many villagers joined the crowd to hear the story Jesus was telling.

"A farmer went out to sow his seed," began

Jesus. "As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up."

The crowd looked at each other. Some of them were farmers and knew exactly what he was talking about, because this had happened in their fields.

"Some fell on rocky ground," Jesus continued, "and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

"What does this parable mean?" the disciples asked.

"I am telling you some secrets about the kingdom of God," said Jesus. "You will understand, but some people will hear and won't know what it means."

