



**The Sower  
(Children's Story/Parable)**

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Seven-year-old Brenda loved going to Sabbath School. It was her favorite part of the whole week. She would count down the days each week until Friday, when Sabbath would begin. Friday evening worship was always special because it signaled the beginning of the Sabbath. Brenda's family would sing special songs and read special stories to welcome the Sabbath.

Brenda would lay out her Sabbath clothes and make sure she had her Bible nearby before saying her prayers and going to sleep. Mama always tried to fix a special breakfast on Sabbath morning before making sure everyone was dressed and ready to go to church. Then everyone would pile into the car for the ride to church. The most special thing about Sabbath was being able to spend time with God in His own house!

After arriving at the church and parking, Brenda couldn't wait to get to class. She loved her teachers who brought Bible stories to life ~~each week~~ through songs, crafts, activities, and lessons. There was always something new to learn, and the teachers made it interesting and fun for ~~all~~ the whole class. They also learned how to pray, serve others, and obey Jesus. With all her heart, Brenda wanted to be a light for Jesus and help others learn about Him!

After Sabbath School, her family attended church and then would go home for lunch and sometimes take a walk or spend time with other church families. But something seemed missing. Brenda didn't feel ~~much~~ like she was actually being a light for Jesus, and she wasn't really sure what that even meant. So how could she bring Jesus to other people?

At church one week there was a special speaker talking about a trip he had taken to Africa. While there, the speaker visited an Adventist school and heard about a special project that the children participated in. These students collected clothing, sports equipment, and school supplies and then visited a local governmental school with students in need. They were able to distribute the items they brought and make some new friends with these students. The Adventist children also had the opportunity to share Jesus with their new friends.

Brenda was very excited! Here was a way in which children her age were reaching out to others, right in their own communities, and they were able to be lights for God! Brenda was sure

that if these boys and girls from Africa could do something for God, then so could she. And she wouldn't even have to travel across the globe to do it. Brenda decided to talk to her mom about ways she could help her own community and share Jesus' love.

Brenda's mom spoke with the pastor of their church, and he introduced them to some literature that was free and easy to share with others. Brenda and her parents reviewed the available pamphlets and chose some they could share with the people they came in contact with. That afternoon, instead of just going for a walk, Brenda and her entire family went to a local park. They passed out a number of pamphlets to those they met. And they met so many people! Runners, parents with strollers, dog walkers, other families just like hers, grandmas and grandpas, and even other kids.

It may not seem like much, just handing a stranger a little booklet of information. But in the Bible, Jesus tells us a story about a farmer spreading seeds and how not all of the seeds take root and grow. Brenda and her family are just like that farmer and the booklets they give away are seeds. Brenda is sharing the light and love of Jesus with others. Mark 4:20 says; "Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop" (NIV). Let's be like Brenda and the farmer and do what we can to spread the love of Jesus to everyone we meet.