

# STUDY AIDS

## *Story 33 - The Story of The Farmer*

A Bible Story from the Books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke



**MORINGA MEDITATIONS**

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# A Guide to Using the Stories in the Open Bible Stories

## The Reason For The Stories

The stories in the OBS tell about things that happened in the Bible. However, the stories are shorter than the Bible accounts, and the language is often easier to understand. The stories can help people learn about who God is and about what he has done. Also, each paragraph of a story has an image that can help people understand what happened in Bible times when clothing, houses, and culture were very different than they are today.

## How to Use The Stories

- **Choose a story to read.** The stories will be easier to understand if you read the stories in order, beginning with the first story
- **Read the story.** In a group, one person may read the story aloud, or the people may take turns reading portions.
- **Look at the images.** Use the images to help you understand what happened in the time of the story. Try to identify the people in the images.
- **Refer to the Notes.** Read the study notes whenever there is a word or something else that you do not understand in the story.
- **Discuss the Questions.** Read each question and think about the answer. The first set of questions help you see what the story says. The next set of questions help you think about what the story means to you. If you are in a group, allow different people to offer answers to the questions. Look at the answer to each question and see how it is the same as your answer, or different from it.
- **Read the Summary.** Read the story summary at the end of the questions. Think about what you have learned about God in the story. If you are in a group, ask the group what they have learned from the story.

## The Parts of The Stories

- The text of the stories
- The images in the stories
- The study notes in the stories
- The questions for the stories

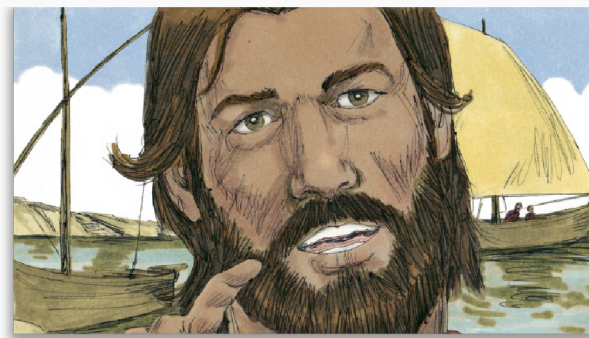
## Study Notes

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### Slide 1

One day, Jesus was near the shore of **the lake**. He was teaching a very large crowd of people. So many people came to hear him that Jesus did not have enough room to speak to them all. So he got into a boat in the water. There he sat and taught the people.

**the lake**- This refers to the Sea of Galilee.



### Slide 2

Jesus told this story. "A farmer went out to plant some seed. As he was **spreading the seed by hand**, some of the seeds happened to fall on **the path**. But birds came and ate all of that seed."

**spreading the seed by hand** - Farmers in the ancient Middle East typically planted grain-bearing crops by throwing the seed on the soil.

**the path** - The path was packed hard from people walking on it. The seed could not go down into the soil, so it was easy for the birds to eat all of it.

