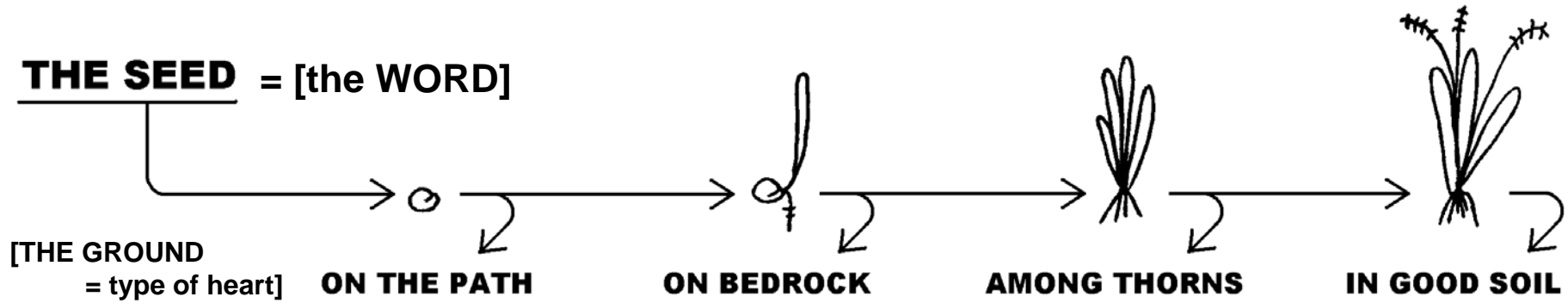


THE SEED = [the WORD]



What the seed does	Nothing; remains "dead"	Came up	Came up; grew	Came up; grew; produced a crop
Type of ground	Hard; seed cannot enter	Shallow; not enough moisture	Overgrown, weedy	Good, noble
End result of Word	Snatched / taken away	Withered	Choked	Produced a crop, fruitful

THE SEED - What happened ... Cause	Trampled and EATEN; ... by BIRDS	No root; scorched and WITHERED ... by the SUN	Fruitless, no grain; CHOKED ... by THORN BUSHES	Multiplies; produces a CROP [... by perseverance]
THE WORD - What happened ... Cause	SNATCHED away ... by the DEVIL	ABANDONED ... when TRIALS arrived	CHOKED ... by the things of the WORLD	ACCEPTED, retained understood [... because of having "ears that hear"]

The person's RESPONSE to the Word	Does not understand it [little or no interest in doing so].	Originally received it with joy; later departed from it.	It seems to be present, but nothing happens	He perseveres and produces a crop.
The type of FAITH	NONE	TEMPORARY	USELESS / DEAD	FRUITFUL / GENUINE

- Jesus said that his "brothers" in the Kingdom of God were those who not only *heard* (paid attention to) the will of God, but who also *did* (obeyed or lived) it. According to Jesus' description, which of the above types of people are his "brothers"? Which aren't?
- The parable (and its context) is found in these passages: Matthew 12:46-13:35; Mark 3:20-21, 31-35; 4:1-34; and Luke 8:4-21.