



Bash and the Pirate Pig by Burton Cole, Illustrated by Tom Bancroft

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REMEMBER

"A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance." John 10:10

READ

In Matthew 13:1-9, Jesus tells one of those farming stories that Bash is always talking about. It's a story about a farmer who plants on three different types of soil, but only one type of soil grows an abundant crop. Read verses 18-23 to see exactly what type of soil—and what kind of person—that is. Whether you're a farmer or a fisher or a kid looking for adventure, Jesus has promised us life in abundance. But it's up to us to tend the soil.

THINK

- 1. Raymond is always thinking that he's smarter than Bash. Do you think it's true? Why?
- 2. Raymond's parents are Christians, and Raymond goes to church. Why do you think it is Bash who is able to lead Raymond to become a Christian?
- 3. How do the three types of soils relate to Bash and Raymond? What type of "soils" do you see in this story?
- 4. How would Jesus describe your "soil," your ability to hear God's Word?
- 5. What can you do to be a better farmer, to have better soil where God's Word can grow abundantly?

DO

Make a Farmin' and Fishin' Book

- 1. Get or make a blank notebook. (Make one by stapling down the center of a stack of several sheets of paper then folding in half on the staples.)
- 2. Title the front cover "My Farming and Fishing Book." Decorate or illustrate the cover.
- 3. As you read and hear farming and fishing stories in the Bible, add them to your notebook. Write the stories in your own words and illustrate them.
- 4. To get started, you can look back at Chapter 17 where Bash lists several examples.
- 5. The next time you're "philosophizing" or just wondering about God's place in your life, take out your Farming and Fishing Book and see what God has to say.

Jesus came to fish for men and to tend the soils of our hears. Will you help Him?

