

## Play: Name that sound

Gather a list of objects from around your home that make a noise. Close your eyes whilst one family member picks up an object and gets it to make a noise. See how many sounds you can guess correctly.

## Play: Test your adult

Go around your home and record up to ten sound effects. You can record yourselves making noises; fingers clicking etc. as well as sounds in the bathroom or kitchen. Play your sound effects and see how many the adult in your home can guess correctly.

## Play: Numbers game

Run around the room or outside. Shout numbers and everyone in your household must do the corresponding action. Introduce one or two new numbers at a time otherwise they will be lost before you even begin. Feel free to make up your own actions: Touch the floor // Jump in the air // Run in an opposite direction // Clap once // Clap twice // Lie on the floor and then get up again.

**Watch: The Parable of the sower** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzEO\\_Ls2ERs&t=4s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzEO_Ls2ERs&t=4s)

## Read: The Parable of the sower

"A man went to sow some seed. Some of the seed fell onto the path and the birds came and ate it. Some of the seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was thin. The seed grew up quickly but when the sun shone it withered, because it didn't have a root. Some of the seed fell among thorns. It grew well, but the thorns grew too and they choked the plants. And some of the seed fell on good ground where it grew and grew and produced a good harvest. This parable teaches us about how we should listen to God and to other people.

Path: this person doesn't listen at all! Perhaps they are daydreaming? The words go in and out of their head but they don't concentrate at all. They hear - but that's it!

Shallow soil: This person thinks they have heard and rushes off to do what he has been taught. But because he hasn't listened properly he loses interest quickly or perhaps he hasn't listened properly and gets the instructions wrong! Rocky ground: This person listens to everything, and spends more time listening to the wrong things than the right things. So they forget what they should be doing because they are too busy listening to and perhaps worrying about irrelevant details.

Good soil: This type of listener is teacher's pet! They listen carefully, possibly ask relevant questions, and then do what they've been told, understanding not only what to do but also how to do it!

## Memorise: James 1:19 Bible verse

James 1:19 says Dear friends, be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to get angry.

Give each person 3 stickers and ask them to find a partner. They should draw ticks on two stickers and a cross on the third. As they repeat the verse, they should stick ticked stickers on each of their partner's ears and the one with the cross just below their lower lip.



## Pray:

Draw and cut out an ear shape. Think about someone who you're not very good at listening to - a parent, sibling, friend, teacher... Write that person's name on it. As you do this, quietly ask God to help you listen better to that person. When you are ready stick their ears up somewhere in your home to remind you to pray and remember to listen to that person.