

The Boiled Seed



An aging king, with no child or heir and desperate to find his successor, issued a challenge to his kingdom. Ruling over a kingdom would take wisdom, commitment, and integrity. Ten boys were selected to take a test of their ability. Each boy was supplied seeds and commanded to plant and care for the seeds for 6 weeks. At the end of this time, the king would select a suitable replacement.

Each boy carefully planted and cared for the seeds. The kingdom anxiously awaited the day the plants would be revealed. On the last day of the 6th week, the king called his subjects to gather around him for the selection process. All ten boys were present.

As the king looked upon the display, he was dismayed to see the variety of prosperous plants flowing from nine of the pots. One pot was different. One boy stood, head bowed and dejected, holding an empty pot. This intrigued the king. As the king approached the boy a tear ran from the boy's eye.



The king spoke softly. "You have an empty pot. Can you explain this to me?"

The boy replied, "Your Majesty, I tried my best but the seeds would not grow."

The king smiled! He spoke to the people with joy! "I have found my successor. It will take wisdom, commitment, and integrity to lead this kingdom and this boy has spoken the truth. None of the seeds would grow because all the seeds were boiled and could not sprout. This boy has integrity and will lead this kingdom well!"

[The Empty Pot](#) video 3:36 min.

Planting Seeds

If you plant honesty, you will reap trust.
If you plant goodness, you will reap friends.
If you plant humility, you will reap greatness.
If you plant perseverance, you will reap victory.
If you plant consideration, you will reap harmony.
If you plant hard work, you will reap success.
If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation.
If you plant openness, you will reap intimacy.
If you plant patience, you will reap improvements.

If you plant faith, you will reap miracles.

But...

If you plant dishonesty, you will reap distrust.

If you plant selfishness, you will reap loneliness.

If you plant pride, you will reap destruction.

If you plant envy, you will reap trouble.

If you plant laziness, you will reap stagnation.

If you plant bitterness, you will reap isolation.

If you plant greed, you will reap loss.

If you plant gossip, you will reap enemies.

If you plant worries, you will reap wrinkles.

If you plant sin, you will reap guilt.

So be careful what you plant now,

It will determine what you will reap tomorrow.

--Author Unknown

Planting Seeds Poem - Individual copy of poem

Quotes:

“Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.”

— **Robert Louis Stevenson**

“Acceptance makes an incredible fertile soil for the seeds of change.”

— **Steve Maraboli**

“Secure tomorrow today by sowing good seeds today and by watering them with faith and love to others.”

— **Enock Maregesi**