

# HOPE FOR THE WORLD - THE SEEDS

Adapted from a Spanish Audiovisual : 'LAS SEMILLAS' (. Ribes,sj.)

## Intent of the Story:

- ✓ *The fable describes different possible attitudes to life and people that we may entertain. Some attitudes are healthy, others are not, namely:.*
- ✓ *By reflecting on the seeds' attitudes we may discover our basic attitudes –healthy or may be unhealthy.*

## The Story.

Once upon a time, in a florist shop a little bag of seeds was lying there for sale. For many days, no buyer fell for it. Confined to the bag, life for the seeds became boring. One day was like any other. To while away their long hours, the seeds used to converse among themselves

### One seed said:

**"I wish to be planted soon.**

**I want to get out of this bag and see places.**

I dream to be carried across mountain and valley,  
River and lake, town and countryside.

I want to see the world!"

### Another seed Interrupted:

**" As for me, I long to be nurtured in a  
Small cozy, pretty garden.**

One of those gardens, where little children  
Go to play, where lovers meet and talk sweet nothings.  
I like to see people, to be with people, to mix with them."

### A third seed added:

**" I would like to be planted in a beautiful flower-pot  
All by myself.**

I don't like other plants growing close to me. .  
I want to be cared for by someone who loves flowers,  
Someone, who will love me only,"  
While the seeds were happily conversing in this way,

### A fourth one cut in:

**I am very happy and contented in this bag and in this  
shop! Whilst here, I have nothing to bother about.**

Here, life is peaceful, I feel secure and untroubled.  
Why this indecent haste to get out?"

### Other seeds remonstrated:"

**Don't you know that if you remain in this bag and in  
this shop You will never bear fruit and flower?:**

You will never radiate joy, beauty and fragrance.

Worse still, you will never become what you are  
Supposed to be, a bearer of sweet scented blossoms?

**But he objected:**

“Don’t you know that in order to bear flowers?  
We have to be planted and die”  
“I hate to be thrown in the ground.  
It’s so rough! I can’t stand the heat of the sun,  
Its scorches me all over! I do not want to die!”

**Horrified by this talk, another seed exclaimed**

**“Not at all! I don’t agree with you.**

**I am most eager to be planted in fertile soil.**

I know it is hard to die, yet, if death is the price  
Of growth, I am ready to die!

Many other seeds joined her and said:

**“We want to bloom and blossom  
To fill the world with perfume  
We want to give our nectar to the bees  
And our honey to mankind.  
We trust in the gardener  
We trust in the sun, the rain and in the breeze.  
We know that after death, we shall be fully alive  
We will carry seeds within us, seeds that will give  
Birth to many scented flowers like ourselves!  
We know deep down in our hearts that if we die a ‘single’  
death,  
We shall live a ‘thousand’ lives, and that this world  
Will be a Better one!”**

**ATTITUDES PORTRAYED B THE VARIOUS SEEDS**

1 <sup>st</sup> :	<b><u>Extroverted and Superficial:</u></b>	To see places, to go about, Enjoy
2 <sup>nd</sup> :	<b><u>Friendly and Outgoing.</u></b>	To be with people, with company
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	<b><u>Introverted and Selfish.</u></b>	To be left alone and to be cared for.
4 <sup>th</sup> :	<b><u>Utterly Selfish.</u></b>	Unwillingness to share, suffer and grow
5 <sup>th</sup> :	<b><u>Utterly Unselfish.</u></b>	Ready to die for others and bear fruit for them.

**QUESTION YOURSELF**

1. **What do you want to get from life?**
2. **What have you got from life already**
3. **What do you want to give to life?**
4. **What have you given to life so far?**