

Sunday, June 10, 2018
Pastor Jim Grimm
How Will You Respond
The Sower and the Seed



Mark 4:3-10 (NLT) (Please make slide)

Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed.

- There is a big difference between hearing and listening.
- Listen - to hear something with thoughtful attention: to give consideration to what you hear: to heed what you hear

Mark 4:13 (NLT)

Then Jesus said to them, "If you can't understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables?"

- There is a direct correlation between listening and understanding.
- This parable contains fundamental principles about the kingdom of God that we all need to understand and follow in order for the kingdom of God to grow.

Mark 4:14-20 (NLT) (Please make slide)

3 components in this parable.

- 1) The sower (the person who plants the seed)
 - 2) The seed (God's word, the truth)
 - 3) The soil (the condition of people's hearts who hear the word)
- The day we were born again, when the Spirit of God came to live in us, we became sowers.

Being born again, not of incorruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which lives and abides forever. 1 Peter 1:23 The seed that we have been given to plant is truth, truth that is imperishable, indestructible, unchanging, everlasting, trustworthy, perfect, unfailing, reliable. The seed that we have been given to plant contains hope, joy, encouragement, peace, faith, comfort, strength, shelter, wisdom, power, victory. The seed that we have been given to plant is the gospel, the seed is the good news, the seed is salvation. **(Do not use this for a slide, but put it in the notes)**

- There is incredible power in the seed that we have been given to sow.
- Jesus is all about the soil.

John 12:24 (NLT)

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels--a plentiful harvest of new lives."

Practical steps in sowing seed.

- 1) Understand that Jesus has called you to sow
- 2) Love people
- 3) Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you see people through Jesus's eyes.
- 4) Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you an opportunity each day to share Jesus with one person
- 5) Understand the power in the seed you are sowing.

(these points should be put up one at a time as I am talking about them)

