

ALONG THE WAY | WEEK 3

Date: April 30, 2023

Verses: Mark 4:1-20



SERIES INSIGHT

Along the Way is a series through the book of Mark! Join us as we unpack how Jesus worked and moved in the lives of people like you me on the journey of life “along the way”.

ICEBREAKER

- What's the best knock-knock joke you know?
- Are you doing the **SOAP Bible Study Challenge**?? How's it going? What has been your experience of it so far? Any key takeaways or meaningful moments?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Review the Message.** Looking back at your notes and upon reflecting on this weekend's message, what was your one takeaway from Sunday?
2. What do you think the purpose of the parable of the sower was? How might you relate to the parable? In what way?
3. Read Mark 4:3-8 and 13-20. As you read, pay attention to the ways “seed” is sown. In what ways might we be like the seed among the rocks or the seed among the thorns?
 - **Leader Note:** Note the emphasis in scripture with words like “shallow”, “withered”, “no root” or “choked out”. Consider how these words play out in our day to day with things like worry, depression, anxiety, shame, fear, etc. How do these things impact the soil of our lives?
4. What are some practical ways we can apply this parable to our daily lives as Christians? Do spiritual disciplines (such as prayer and Bible study) play a role in us applying this parable to our lives?
5. Consider the ways seed is sown again. How important is good soil to producing and multiplying? How might we help others cultivate good soil in their hearts so that they too can also bear fruit for God's Kingdom?
6. What are some obstacles or distractions that can hinder our spiritual growth? What are some ways we can we overcome them?
 - **Leader Note:** Consider leaning in a bit on answers that may feel like superficial or the “obvious answers”. If we know these to be the answer, then why don't we do them? What are some root areas that actually hold us back to overcoming obstacles and distractions (see James 4:2-3)?
7. In what ways can we make sure that we are not just hearers, but doers of God's word?

PRAYER

Allow people to share requests and celebrate any praise reports as well. Consider having someone write down the requests to share with the group. Take time to pray however long your group needs.



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