

The Parable of the Four Soils

7.7.24

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Remember: you do not have to do the entire study (you may not have time) – you can choose what questions you want to discuss.

Read Matthew 13:1-23

1. In this parable: who is the sower?
What do the seeds represent?
What do the various types of land represent?
2. What is the main point Jesus is trying to get across in this parable?
3. Do you think the crowd understood what Jesus was trying to say to them? Why or why not?
4. Why did the disciples ask Jesus about his use of parables?
5. What are the general rules for interpreting parables? What are we supposed to look for? How accurate to the "real thing" is the teaching?
6. What are the thorns in your life? Where is the rocky ground in your life?
7. How do we make sure our "soil" is receptive to what God is saying and doing?
8. Jesus said, "Whoever has ears, let them hear." How can we be sure to hear what Jesus is saying?
9. Why did Jesus say he taught in parables? What does this tell us about the truths of the kingdom?
10. What would be the equivalent of this today?
11. Why do you think Jesus gave an interpretation of this parable?
12. What are the dangers Jesus highlights in his interpretation? How do we avoid these dangers?

Prayer points:

- Continue to pray for the situation in Israel/Palestine and in the Ukraine, and the people affected by these conflicts.
- Pray for the people of Papua New Guinea.