

Kingdom Come

Seed and Soil (Mt. 13:1-9, 18-23)

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear.” – *Matthew 13:1-9 (ESV)*

“18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” – *Matthew 13:18-23 (ESV)*

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Do you enjoy gardening? If so, what do you enjoy about it? If not, what about it isn’t appealing to you?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Matthew 13:1-9 and then 13:18-23. What do you think Jesus is trying to teach in this parable? What is usually the point of a Parable?
- Bonus material: Matthew 16:13-20.

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- Why would the sower throw seed on bad soil if he knows that it won’t grow? Who is the Word of God for?
- What kind of soil are you? What kind of soil do you want to be?
- Can your soil be made softer?
- Can you be a sower?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Who can you be praying for that will hear the Word of God and have it grow inside their heart?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.