


## Lead with Faith — Share

November 12, 2023  
Doyle and Jennifer Jackson

### I. The Environment Has Changed

**Matthew 13:1—3** (NIV) *Jesus teaching by the Sea...* **1** That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. **2** Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. **3** Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed.”


 Jesus is teaching to an interested \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 13:10—11** (NIV) *Not everyone is ready for the kingdom...* **10** The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?” **11** He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.”

### II. What Is the Difference Between Gardening and Harvesting?

**Matthew 13:16-23** (NIV) *Jesus explains himself...* **16** But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. **17** For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

**18** “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: **19** When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. **20** The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. **21** But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. **22** The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. **23** But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”


 The seed is the message of the kingdom, the \_\_\_\_\_.

**What if you and I focused more energy on gardening?**

**Have we confused the harvest as the only goal?**

### III. Ask Questions to prepare the Soil

**Matthew 13:24-26** (NIV) *Jesus says there are weeds in the field...* **24** Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. **25** But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. **26** When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

 Don't be shocked by the \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Gather information about what they believe.

**Matthew 6:28** (NIV) “And **why do you** worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.”

B. Gather information about why they believe what they do.

**Matthew 7:3** (NIV) “**Why do you** look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?”

C. Ask questions to help them understand themselves.

**Matthew 9:4** (NIV) Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, “**Why do you** entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?”

### IV. Some Practical Ideas

*New here? We would love to get to know you. Scan*



This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat. Nov. 11, John 12—13
- Sun. Nov. 12, John 14—16
- Mon. Nov. 13, John 17—19
- Tue. Nov. 14, John 20—21
- Wed. Nov. 15, Acts 1—3
- Thur. Nov. 16, Acts 4—6
- Fri. Nov. 17, Acts 7—8
- Sat. Nov. 18, Acts 9—10
- Sun. Acts. 19, Acts 11—13


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