

# THE GOOD SOIL

MARK 4:2-9; 13-20





# 1. The Seed

**Jesus says, "The sower sows the word" (verse 14).**

**In Luke 8:11, He says, "Now the parable is this: The seed is the Word of God"**

- **“The best chance that I have at understanding what God desires of me.”**
- **Man should not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God - Matthew 4:4**





## 2. The Birds

- This particular ground was not meant for sowing, but for walking. It was a pathway for walking.(verse 4)
- The soil was not **conducive** for growing crops





## 2. The Birds

What is particularly interesting about this text is the mentioning of the enemy with three different names in the three Gospel versions of this parable.

The evil one – Matthew 13:19

Satan – Mark 4:15

The devil - Luke 8:12

Jesus personalized the work of Satan (not his demons, and not the flesh)





### 3. The Stony Ground

- Not much soil; there is quick growth because of a lack of depth
- **Temporary** – *proskairos* – to last for a season or a little while
- Lacking consistency and discipline





### 3. The Stony Ground

- The Sun:
  - Persecution or affliction because of the Word
- Every believer will have to deal with the sun.
- Your roots need to be deep, to survive the heat.





## 4. The Thorny Ground

- The thorns will **grow** with you...and **choke** you.
- 3 things that will choke the Word out of the believer:
  - Worry of the World (Ages)
  - **Deceitfulness** of wealth
  - Worldly Pleasures





## 4. The Thorny Ground

- The plant will grow...but bear little or no fruit.
- Luke 8:14 – “...bring no fruit to **maturity**.”
  - To not come to **maturity**
  - Fruit that does not **ripen**
  - Pregnancy with no delivery
  - Religion without righteousness





## 5. The Good Soil

- **How can we describe "good soil"?**  
Soil that is treated and prepared. Good seed need good soil.
  - Soil with **purpose** and intent for growth
  - Soil with stones and obstructions **removed** and with plenty of room for growth
  - Soil that has been **purged** of weeds and briars





## 5. The Good Soil

- 3 different descriptions of “good” soil:
- **Matthew 13:23** – “...hears the word and understands it.”
  - Understand – It all comes together and makes sense.
- **Mark 4:20** – “...they hear the word and accept it.”
  - Accepting – receiving or taking for one’s self
- **Luke 18:15** – “...heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.”
  - Hold fast – to possess; to keep secure; to not let it go

