

Parables of Jesus, part 1 *“The Parable of the Soil”*

Matthew 13:1-10

Matthew 13:18-23

A picture can speak a thousand words...

As we dive into these parables, we will look at the nuances to understand them properly and to be transformed by them.

James 1:22

“He who has ears, let him hear?”

What he was talking about were people who have an ability to hear, to understand and embrace the truth.

Why did Jesus switch to speaking more and more in parables?

Matthew 13:10-17

By switching to parables he was able to keep the crowds with him, frustrate his enemies, and invite his followers to embrace His Kingdom Gospel!

Jesus taught with pictures worth a thousand words. He wanted everybody to get it, so he told these colorful, unforgettable, compelling, culturally relevant stories.

Matthew 13:3-4

Matthew 13:18-19

Where does the soil of your heart need to be softened?

Matthew 13:5-6

Matthew 13:20-21

“Superficiality is the curse of this age.” It's a shallow world. Shallow relationships, superficial conversations, hurried moments of prayer, too much television, superficial commitment -- and this characterizes people's lives, even people's lives sometimes when they enter into church and start thinking about faith.” Richard Foster starts his book Celebration of Discipline

What kind of depth is in your life?

What spiritual practices have you implemented to help your soil go deep?

Matthew 13:7

Matthew 13:22

Where do you need to do some weeding?

Are there some things/practices in your life that you need to eliminate?

Matthew 13:8-9

Matthew 13:23

Prayer of Examen

- *Give thanks*
- *Ask God for insight*
- *Examine the Day*
- *Seek forgiveness*
- *Steps to change*