



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Was there anything about today's message that you found particularly helpful or interesting? Anything you'd like to discuss further?
2. Today's passage examined four different types of hearts that receive the word of God: the hard heart, shallow heart, strangled heart and fruitful heart. Discuss these four heart conditions.
3. Which heart condition most resonates with you and why? How has the condition of your heart shifted from season to season?
4. How does the devil "take away the Word" from the hard heart? (Verse 12). Read Matthew 13:19. What other factors negatively affect the hard heart?
5. The shallow heart fails to bear fruit because "it has no root or moisture." What factors contribute to that type of heart today? Read Matthew 13:21. What type of testing causes this heart to "fall away?"
6. The strangled heart fails to bear fruit because of "worries, riches & pleasures of life." How do these things strangle out fruitfulness in your Christian life and why?
7. What's the difference between the fruitful soil and the other three? How do we encourage obedience and endurance in our own faith and the faith of others?
8. Part of our role as believers is to ourselves be engaged in "sowing the seed." How should this passage inform/encourage our own evangelistic outreach?

9. What specific "next step" is God calling you to take in your discipleship journey?
What keeps you from taking that next step? How can we pray for you so that
God's will is done in your life?