

The Gospel of **MARK**

Community Group Questions Nov 14, 2021

The Sower, the Seeds and the Soils David Fandey | Mark 4:1-25

Kicking Things Off

Where have you seen God's Word bear fruit in your life this last week?

Getting Into It

Mark 4:1-20

Just looking at verses 1-9, what would you think this parable was about if you didn't have Jesus' explanation/commentary in the following verses?

The disciples had no clue (v. 10, 13). What does v. 14 tell us the main thrust of this parable is about?

Why is the Word so essential for the believer? (see Deut. 8:3, cf Mt. 4:4)

According to Jesus' explanation, what do the soils represent?

Let's look at each soil. Describe the first (v. 4, 15). What happens in this soil? What's the warning for us here?

Next is the rocky soil (v. 5-6, 16-17). What happens here?

According to Jesus, the affliction and persecution is a result of the word! What does this mean, how can we be afflicted and persecuted by others as we embrace the Word?

In many cases, God's word is incredibly clear like on issues of salvation, sin, sanctity of human life, care for the poor, marriage, sexuality, gender, wealth, lying, etc. How could God's view of all of this cause the Christian to face affliction and persecution?

What's the warning for us here with this type of soil?

The next soil is found in v. 7, 18-19. What's going on here with this soil?

What's the warning for us here with this type of soil?

The last soil is the good soil! (v. 8, 20). Describe this soil. What are the blessings of being this type of soil?

What do you find yourself listening to the most? Yourself, your heart, your fears, opinions of others, social media, the news, your spouse, your teachers, the culture, the Word of God?

How do you typically respond to the Word of God? What kind of soil do you see your life consisting of? Why is that the case?

In v. 12 Jesus quotes God's judgment on Israel via the prophet Isaiah for the hardness of their hearts. What's the antidote to having a heart hard to the Word of God?

What should we expect to see in our lives if we are consistently responding like the good soil?

The Parting Shot

Spend time surrendering to the Lord and His Word and praying that our hearts would respond like the good soil.

