

Connect Group Guide:



Passage

Sermon Link: [▶ Good Soil \(Sunday 8 Jan 2023\)](#)

Welcome: *(Choose a question for your group to discuss)*

- Have you ever grown or maintained plants/gardens? What were the main challenges in keeping a greenery alive?

Worship:

(May choose to use YouTube or other mediums to facilitate your time of worship)

- Link: [▶ None but Jesus - Hillsong Worship](#)

Word:

(Discuss these questions in your group, encourage everyone to take part)

Before reading the scripture:

- What is different about a follower of Jesus that makes the word of God their own?
- Name 3 aspects of life that influence the maturing of people's faith?
- What does it mean to truly listen?

Read: Mark 4:1-20

- Hardened hearts - What causes people's hearts to become hardened to the word of God?
- Shallow/rocky ground - What causes people to lose faith when it is scrutinised? How does Jesus guide us in counteracting this?
- Weedy Soil - Which of the 3 'weedy' aspects mentioned by Jesus in Verse 19 resonates most in your heart (which one speaks more personally to you)?
- Good soil - According to Jesus, what makes soil fruitful?

Works:

(Take some time for personal reflecting on the following questions and then share back with the group)

- Which type of soil is God addressing in your heart? Which area of your life is He busy working with?
- How can we ensure that our roots are firmly planted in the person of Jesus and God's word so that we remain fruitful soil?

Closing:

(Remember to ask for prayer requests.)

- Pray for guidance in allowing God to deal with our hearts so that His will may be fulfilled in our lives.

