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## Grace Community Church of Topsail

Sunday, July 27, 2025: [The Parable of the Sower](#)[Print](#)[Copy](#)

## Baptism Sunday!

Sunday, July 27, 2025 @ 6pm

Broadway Beach Access (Public Access #5)

If interested, please see Steve

Annual Church-wide  
"Sandcastle" Building  
Competition at the  
Beach!

July 27, 2025 6-8pm

Broadway Beach Access  
Public Access #5**Titus 3:3-7** ESV

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient,  
led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures,  
passing our days in malice and envy, hated by  
others and hating one another. But when the  
goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior  
appeared,...

[Continue reading »](#) **Death Was Arrested** **We Fall Down** **Holy Holy Holy (Nicaea)****Isaiah 43:25** ESV

"I, I am he  
who blots out your transgressions for my own  
sake,  
and I will not remember your sins.

[Continue reading »](#) **Is He Worthy**

- Today's Sermon -

## The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:1-23

**Matthew 13:1-23** ESV

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went...

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**What Jesus is getting at here is not just some intellectual failure to understand truth. The Parable of the Sower reveals to us the various responses to spiritual truth, but more importantly, it speaks about one's ability to respond to truth.**

1. Jesus teaches the parable to the crowds. **Matthew 13: 1-9**
2. His disciples ask Jesus why he teaches in parables because even they find them difficult to understand. **Matthew 13: 11-17**
3. Jesus interprets the parable for his disciples (not the crowd). **Matthew 13: 18-23**

■ **Matthew 13:1-9** ESV

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went...

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■ **Matthew 13:11-17** ESV

“And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has...

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■ **Matthew 13:18-23** ESV

“Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky...

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#### WHAT JESUS SAYS TO THE CROWD

*That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. HE WHO HAS EARS, LET HIM HEAR.” Matthew 13: 1-9*

■ **Matthew 13:1-9** ESV

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went...

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**1. Sowing ALWAYS leads to a harvest regardless of the quality of the soil.**

**2. We are not to despair at the apparent failure of the seed to produce a crop.**

**3. Even though God is in control, evil still flourishes and seeks to oppose the gospel at every turn.**

"To you [his disciples] it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them [the crowd] it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. THIS is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do NOT see, and hearing they do NOT hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: 'You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.' For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them." But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

Matthew 13:11-15

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Acts 7:51

Jesus' purpose was NOT ALWAYS TO REVEAL TO THE CROWD SOME TRUTH which they needed to HEAR but rather to show them that RIDICULOUS, HARD HEARTED ATTITUDES could NEVER be transformed by the truth NO MATTER WHAT FORM it came in.

Matthew 13:11-16 ESV

“And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has...”

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Acts 7:51 ESV

“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.”

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*And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.*

**1 John 3: 19-20**

#### WHAT JESUS REVEALS TO HIS DISCIPLES

**"Hear then the parable of the sower:** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, so when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, he immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful (over time). As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty" (over time) Matthew 13:18-23

#### OPPOSITION TO THE SEEDS IMPACT SATANIC INTERFERENCE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT PERSECUTION WORLDLINESS

*The parable of the Sower when taught in line with the rest of the New Testament clearly states that a "deeply rooted" (God-given) faith can resist the devil.*

**Two things are emphasized in this parable:**

- 1. TIME** – The effect the gospel has on a person's heart over a period of time
- 2. FRUIT** – The fruit that is produced by those same people over a period of time

2 Peter 1:10 ESV

“Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to

confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

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#### 1. THE SEED WHICH FALLS ON THE PATH

When anyone hears the word of the Kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received the seed by the wayside.  
If the Good News was preached to **Satan**, **Satan** said, "I will not allow this from people who are preaching. Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are **unable** to see the glorious light of the Good News." **2 Corinthians 4: 3-4, 6**

#### 2. THE SEED WHICH FALLS ON THE STONY PLACES

But he who received the seed on the stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the Word, **HE IMMEDIATELY** is stumbled.

#### 3. THE SEED WHICH FALLS AMONG THORNS


He who received the seed among the thorns is he who hears the Word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.  
I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you **keep them from the evil one**. They are not of **this world**, just as I am not of the world. **John 17: 14-16**

**Do not save the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—comes into the world but is not from the Father. 1 John 2: 15-16**

#### 4. THE SEED WHICH FALLS ON THE GOOD GROUND

But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed hears that and produces some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For **THE GATE IS NARROW** and **THE WAY IS HARD** that leads to life, and those who find it are few (those who endure to the end). **Matthew 7: 13-14**

 My Jesus I Love Thee (Gordon)

## Baptism Sunday!

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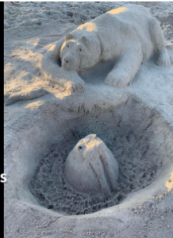
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Public Access #5



GCT Business  
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Stacy Leicht to be  
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☐ New! Easier to use  
☐ Great days out  
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Elliott Roberts  
Date of Birth: 12/28/83  
Living donor team: 919-613-7777  
Website: [duke.donorscreen.org](http://duke.donorscreen.org)  
[www.livingdonorassistance.org](http://www.livingdonorassistance.org)



INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE SAFETY TEAM?



"Be sober-minded; be watchful.  
Your adversary the devil prowls  
around like a roaring lion,  
seeking someone to devour."

See John Newber for details

**Nursery**

*"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 19:14*

Newborn - Toddlers      10am Volunteer Opportunities

**Contact:**  
Joy Mills




Missionaries that GCT Supports

**Prayer Before Sunday Morning Worship,  
meets at 9AM in Media classroom. Open to all!**



"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances." — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Accountability & Discipleship

**Men's Group**

Tuesday Morning @ 6am  
A Taste of Sunrise Coffeehouse

Discussions on Biblical Manhood




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Fill out a Connect Card and  
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Grace Community Church of Topsail

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