

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: PREPARING THE HEART

Key Text: Mark 4:1–20

Big Idea: The seed (God's Word) and the Sower remain the same; the condition of the heart determines the harvest.

1. God Invites Us to His Table

- Revelation 3:20
- Through Christ we are welcomed as sons and daughters.
- Fellowship with Jesus transforms our hearts.

2. God Can Transform Any Heart

- Isaiah 35:4–7
- Dry places can become rivers.
- Strongholds can be replaced with freedom and fruitfulness.

3. Four Conditions of the Heart

- Wayside Heart – Hardened; the enemy steals the Word (Mark 4:15).
- Stony Heart – Wrong influences prevent deep roots (Mark 4:16–17).
- Thorny Heart – Worries, distractions, and desires choke the Word (Mark 4:18–19).
- Good Ground – Receives, keeps, and produces fruit (Mark 4:20; Luke 8:15).

4. Cultivating Good Ground

- Examine yourself (2 Corinthians 13:5).
- Seek first God's Kingdom (Matthew 6:33).
- Guard what influences your heart.

Response:

Ask God to open your eyes, open your ears, and give you a pure heart that receives His Word and bears lasting fruit.