#### **NEW SERIES**

**GREATER TOGETHER** - "Why a church family is so important"

# **GETTING READY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

March 13, 2022

Pastor Juan Vasquez

#### Acts 2:41 & 42 (NLT)

Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day--about 3,000 in all. All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer...

#### **Luke 8:4-8** (NASB)

Now when a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable: "The sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the sky ate it up. "Other seed fell on rocky soil, and when it came up, it withered away because it had no moisture. "Other seed fell among the thorns; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out. "And yet other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as much." As He said these things, He would call out, "The one who has ears to hear, let him hear."

# WE MUST DESIRE TO GROW

#### **Luke 8:11,12** (NASB)

"Now this is the parable: the seed is the word of God. "And those beside the road are the ones who have heard, then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved.

The hardened path = A CLOSED MIND

3 CAUSES OF A CLOSED MIND

FEAR, BITTERNESS & PRIDE



# WE MUST COMMIT TO GROW

#### **Luke 8:13** (NASB)

"Those on the rocky soil are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and yet these do not have a firm root; they believe for a while, and in a time of temptation they fall away."

The shallow soil = **A SUPERFICIAL COMMITMENT** 

#### **5 COMMITMENTS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**

I commit to CONNECT WITH OTHERS, BUILD SPIRITUAL HABITS, USE MY TALENTS, SHARE MY FAITH, FULFILL MY PURPOSE

# WE MUST GET RID OF DISTRACTIONS

#### **Luke 8:14** (NASB)

"And the seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked by worries, riches, and pleasures of this life, and they bring no fruit to maturity.

The soil with weeds = **A DISTRACTED LIFE** 

# WE MUST MAINTAIN TO GROW

### **Luke 8:15** (NASB)

"But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word with a good and virtuous heart, and hold it firmly, and produce fruit with perseverance.

The good soil = **IS A PRODUCTIVE LIFE** 

#### **NEXT WEEK: CONNECTING WITH GOD**

We're so glad you joined us. If you would like more information about God, Jesus and the Bible, please talk with any of our church leaders.

Thank you for joining us!