

Date: 07/22/25

Speaker: Bishop Darrick Fields

Scripture

Mark 4:15-20

- **Footpath**: As you hear the word, how attentive are you? Are you distracted from hearing the word? Satan immediately comes and takes the word away.
- Rocky Ground: You know roots need to grow and you receive the word joyfully. Other roots
 are already rooted in the heart (e.g. roots of bitterness). Affliction or persecution for the
 WORD'S sake occurs and Satan snatches the word from your heart.
 - o If you need mercy, you must be merciful. Blessed are the merciful. (Matthew 5:7)
- **Thorny Ground**: Hear the word but the cares of the world, deceitfulness of wealth, and the desire of things crowd out/choke out the word.
 - Captivate those thoughts and bring them into obedience of the Lord.
- **Good Ground**: *Hears* the word of God and *receives* the word producing fruit 30, 60, or 100 times the fruit that was sown.
 - Meditating on the word, putting yourself around others to speak the word, and using the word to speak godly things into existence. Positioning yourself so that we can receive the word.

Acts 3:19 and Matthew 18:3

- Acts 3:19 Repent and be converted. Converted to what?
- Matthew 18:3 Converted into little children
 - We must be teachable, pliable. Allow your mind to be renewed, recover from your past that has led you to a place of unbelief.
 - Repentance is more than just turning away. It's a U-turn; turning from sin and turning back to God. Only he can make us new again.
- Repent and be converted and our sins will be blotted out. Then there's a refreshing that comes from the Lord. God is setting us up for glory.