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The Condition of the Ground: A Heart Ready For God

1. God's Word Always Has Power - But the Ground Must Be Ready

Scripture: *Mark 4:15-20*

- In different areas, you can break through the hard ground if you get comfortable being uncomfortable.

2. True Repentance Prepares the Soil

Scripture: *Acts 3:19-20, 2 Corinthians 7:10*

- Turn away from sin and turn to God. That is true repentance. We must be teachable; like children.
- How do you respond to conviction?

3. You Might Be Different Ground in Different Areas

Notes:

- God wants to make every part of our heart good ground.
- Be aware of how you receive the word about one area versus another.
- Evaluate why you're struggling in one area and seek the Lord for how you can improve in that area.

4. Persecution and Trials Expose Our Roots

Scripture: *2 Timothy 3:12, Matthew 5:10-12*

- Persevere through hardships and continue to produce good fruit.
- Let the roots get exposed; do you complain through the trials or do you praise through it?
- Persecution isn't always punishment, it's breaking up the ground.

5. Spiritual Fruit Is the Proof of Conversion

Scripture: *Matthew 3:8, Romans 12:1-2*

- Demonstrating a new behavior that proves a change of heart.
- If there is no good fruit, is there really a conversion?
- Revisit the condition of your soul if you're not seeing lasting fruit.

6. God Desires Broken, Teachable Hearts

Scripture: *Psalm 51:17, Joel 2:12-13*

- Commit to renewing our minds with his words daily.
- Broken hearts with godly sorrow is a sacrifice that is acceptable to God.