

**NOTES: Lessons from the Boat | Cultivate**  
**May 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> 2022, Compelled Church | Mark 4:1-20**

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**4 steps the Gospel calls us to:**

Allow the Word to **CULTIVATE** our hearts so we can learn to **TRUST** Jesus in all situations and **JOIN** Him in the supernatural life by **LIVING** dependent on His grace not our own works.

The attention and care of our heart condition is the most important spiritual practice we can commit to.

**WE NAVIGATE LIFE UNAWARE OF THE EFFECTS ON OUR HEART**

- Desire over Discernment - What I want over what is best

**CULTIVATE:** to prepare, to foster

If we are honest with ourselves, our expectation is greater than our preparation. We want the promises of God without living the principles of God

**Examples of the heart:**

**1) Foot path – Hardened Heart**

Hardened by sin - Our offence - Someone else's offence (We see God responsible for their offence)

We lay the behavior of man over the character of God this leads us to a distorted conclusion of Gods heart

**2. ROCKY PATH – Shallow heart**

Emotion of the moment Vs. Rule of life Good intentions VS. Life change

**POWERFUL UNDERSTANDING:**

Purpose of the Word of God is not to save us from trials but to prepare us for trials

We have to remember Gods goodness is not defined by our perception of his faithfulness

**3. THORNS – Divided Heart**

**Worries of life:** Worries = Divided mind/drawn into different direction

We decide to manage our own lives through worldly resources Instead of releasing our lives to the supernatural wisdom of heaven

**Lures of wealth:**

Money & Stuff Position & Achievement

**The gospel of western culture:**

Indulgence leads to freedom

**The gospel of Christ says:**

restraint leads to freedom

**4. GOOD SOIL – cultivated Heart**

Takes the word in Immediately, Deeply, Exclusively

**Q. HOW DO WE GET GOOD SOIL?**

**1. "Set our hearts"** Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,<sup>(A)</sup> set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God

**2. "Guard Your Heart"**

Proverbs 4:23 **Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.**

**Book recommendation: "Sanctuary of the Soul" by Richard Foster**

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## Sermon Discussion Questions: Lessons from the Boat | Cultivate

May 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 | Compelled Church

*For continued study in groups, for families or individual*

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**Q)** Can you remember the first time the Seed of the Gospel was planted in your life? How did you respond?

Read Mark 4:1-20

**Q)** Why do you think there is such a verity of Responses to the seed (Word of God)?

**Q)** What kind of soil best represents you?

**Q)** Can you explain the characteristics of each soil?

- Hard Path

- Rocky Soil

- Thorns

- Good Soil

**Q)** What are some of the things that keep our hearts from becoming good soil?

Read these verses and comment on what they mean to you?

Proverbs 4:23

Matthew 15:19

Luke 6:54

Jerimiah 29:13

Matthew 5:8

**Q)** Do you believe there is a battleground in our hearts for the Word to take root?

**Q)** What are some ways the Devil steals away the seed before it can take root?

### **1) Foot Path – Hard Heart**

**Q)** Have you ever been in a situation where disappointments in life have caused your heart to be hardened toward God? How did you overcome this?

### **2) Rocky Path – Shallow Heart**

**Q)** How do you feel about these two statements?

- The purpose of the word of God is not to save us from trials but to prepare us for trials

- Gods goodness is not defined by our perception of His faithfulness

### **3) Thorny Path – Divided Heart**

**Q)** Where do you find your greatest struggle? “Worries of Life” or “Lure of Riches”

Talk about the different approach to these.

The gospel of Western culture: Indulgence leads to freedom

The Gospel of Christ: restraint leads to freedom

### **4) Good Soil – Cultivated Heart**

**Q)** What are some things you are currently doing to create “Good Soil?”

**Q)** What are some way you can do these things this week?

#### **1. “Set our hearts”**

Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,<sup>(A)</sup> set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God

#### **2. “Guard Your Heart”**

Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.