

A Place to Belong: Small Group Application

Note: Those seeking to understand the GOSPEL of Jesus will never fully understand it until they practice the GOSPEL in Community. In the Bible, there were two basic settings that Christians grew, large worship gatherings and small bands that met in homes.

We at Grace believe that both are important for your personal growth and maturity. When Jesus says, “love your neighbor” you will not learn what love is until love is tested in community.

And so we gather during the week to eat, to pray, to read the word, and apply it in our lives. This is how we grow in the Lord.¹

Questions: Read Matthew 13:1-23

1. This passage speaks of 4 responses to the GOSPEL of Jesus – talk through the 4 responses and specifically → Is the 3rd person a true Christian? (see Matthew 13:19-23; cf. v. 22)
2. What does it mean to “understand” the GOSPEL of Jesus? (see 13:23; cf. vv. 10-15)
3. Why is the conversation so important?

The Parables of Jesus

Today’s Parable: of the Soils

Matthew 13:1 *That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “**A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear.”***

Hearing, Receiving and Understanding

¹ To join or start a group, email tieah@gracechurchseattle.org