



Pt. 1: Hidden in Plain Sight; Hearts and Seeds

Jesus uses a parable about sowing seeds to help explain the conditions of entry into God’s Kingdom. Jesus is the Sower. His Word is the Seed. The heart’s of men and women are the Soil. Rocky and hard, full of thorns, or soft determines whether the soil is either bad or good. The condition of the soil will determine whether their hearts will respond to Jesus or not. The same is true of us.

Bottom Line: Genuine believers continue to grow and produce Kingdom fruit.

Discussion Questions:

1. What type of gardening have you done? Describe the type of soil that is best for growing seeds.
2. How do stories and illustrations help us to understand more clearly the message of the Bible?
3. Jesus often taught in parables. Why do you think Jesus did this? Answer the question then read the scripture passage found in **Matthew 13:10-17**. How did your answer match up with what Jesus said in this passage?
4. **Read Matthew 13:4-8**. Into what various places did the seed fall? Which seed ended up sprouting and bearing fruit? Why?
5. What are some thorns that tend to choke out your Christian faith?
6. **Read Matthew 13:23**. What kind of “Kingdom” fruit is evident in your life? How are you currently involved in “sowing the seed” of God’s Word?
7. What is one thing you can do this week to become a more effective sower of God’s Word?
8. How can your group support you this week?
9. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?

*If time doesn’t allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.
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