

The Farmer Scattering Seed



MEMORY VERSE: But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!
Galatians 5:22-23



MARK 4:1-9 Listening to Learn

1. Planting seeds is called "sowing." What happened to the seeds that landed in these different places?

Footpath

Rocky ground

Among thorns

2. Where was the best place for the seeds to fall? Why? v. 8

3. Jesus told the crowd twice to listen to His words (v. 3,9). What do you think it means to "listen" to the Bible?



MARK 4:10-12 Purpose of Parables

4. What did the disciples and others want to know? v. 10



5. Why do you think stories or parables make it easier to understand some things?

6. Why do you think people can see and hear truth and still not understand?



LUKE 15:25-32 Lost and Found

7. Jesus tells us that the seed is _____ v. 14

8. Why did the seeds that landed on the path, rocky soil or thorns fail to grow?

9. Why did the seed in the good soil grow so much better than the other seeds? v. 20

10. If we decide to hear and accept God's Word, what happens to us? (memory verse)

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

It's easy to let things get in the way of spending time with God. He wants us to make reading the Bible and praying to Him our top priority. If we do these things, our faith will grow like the seed in the good soil and He will be most important to us.

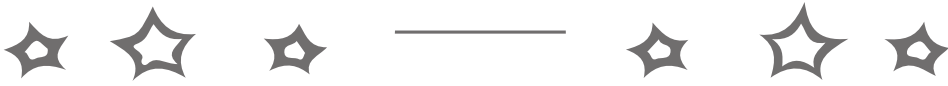
PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Lord, please help me to have eyes to see and ears to hear so that I can have good soil and grow strong and bear fruit for Jesus.
Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



What is the most important thing you learned from this parable?





Mark 4:1-20

Parable of the Farmer Scattering Seed

Mark 4:1-9

¹ Once again Jesus began teaching by the lakeshore. A very large crowd soon gathered around him, so he got into a boat. Then he sat in the boat while all the people remained on the shore. ² He taught them by telling many stories in the form of parables, such as this one:

³ “Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. ⁴ As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. ⁵ Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn’t have deep roots, it died. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. ⁸ Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” ⁹ Then he said, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”

Mark 4:10-12

¹⁰ Later, when Jesus was alone with the twelve disciples and with the others who were gathered around, they asked him what the parables meant.

¹¹ He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secret of the Kingdom of God. But I use parables for everything I say to outsiders, ¹² so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled:

‘When they see what I do,
they will learn nothing.

When they hear what I say,
they will not understand.

Otherwise, they will turn to me and be forgiven.”

Mark 4:13-20

¹³ Then Jesus said to them, “If you can’t understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables? ¹⁴ The farmer plants seed by taking God’s word to others. ¹⁵ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away. ¹⁶ The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ But since they don’t have deep roots, they don’t last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God’s word. ¹⁸ The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God’s word, ¹⁹ but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. ²⁰ And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God’s word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!”

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