

Getting into Our LivesGroup time - 15 minutes

1. What is your usual response to hearing God's Word preached? Is it healing you or hardening you?
2. How do you prepare to hear God's Word on Sunday? How can you improve your preparation?
3. What things that you long for threaten to replace your listening to Jesus?
4. How can this parable encourage you to share God's Word, knowing it will be received in these different ways?

Getting Out the GospelGroup time - 10 minutes

- Keep practicing sharing your "Stories of Life Change" (Testimonies) and keep studying the simple gospel outline.
- Review with your group how the people you desire to reach are doing.
- Take time right now to pray for opportunities to share with them in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Getting into PrayerGroup time - 10 minutes

Reach: *Pray for non-believers to have open eyes and ears for the gospel.*

Grow: *Pray that we would take steps to hear God more clearly.*

Empower: *Pray that as we begin to take listening to God more seriously, that we would find others that we can encourage to do the same.*

All In = All Ears ***Matthew 13:1-23***

1. The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:1-9

#1

#2

#3

#4

2. The Purpose of the Parables

Matthew 13:10-17

3. The Point of the Parable

Matthew 13:18-23

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of November 4, 2018

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Remember the Magic Eye 3-D Illusions from the 90s? How many of your group could see them: always, sometimes or never? How did that make you feel?
2. What's your experience with "selective hearing"? When is it normal and when is it frustrating?
3. What's your experience with successful seed planting? What works and what doesn't?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting into God's WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read Matthew 13:1-9

1. Who is Jesus' audience?
2. In your own words, what is a parable?
3. List the four different types of soil. What happens in each case?
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)

Read Matthew 13:10-17

4. Who has been given the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom? Why would some receive it and some not?
5. How did Jesus' preaching affect those who are unable to hear? How did it affect those that could hear and understand?

Read Matthew 13:18-23

6. Give your own label/description to each type of hearer each soil represents.
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - 4)
7. Why doesn't the rocky ground hearer have any root? What sort of root would withstand persecution? **See also: Jeremiah 17:7-8**
8. What is different about the good soil hearer from the other three? How can we know if someone is a true follower of Christ?

Read 1 Peter 1:10-12

9. How does this scripture remind us of the precious nature of the gospel message?