



Soil Care

Series: Kingdom Stories for Everyday Life

Scripture: Matthew 13:3-23; Mark 4:3-20; Luke 8:5-15

Different Viewpoints/Lessons:

- A story of a man who sows seed _____.
 - A reminder that God _____ his promise of salvation and blessing to _____.
- The problem isn't with the _____, it's with the _____.
 - Soil meant _____, sustainability, and _____.
- Jesus is explaining the _____ of people that we _____ the Kingdom of Heaven with.
 - The _____ of our soul (our dirt) as we receive the message has important _____.
 - It's all the same seed/message.

"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." - Psalm 139:23-24

SOIL CARE:

1. _____ for areas where you're hard-_____ or hard-headed.
2. Look for areas where you're _____ or _____-hearted.
3. Do the _____ to not let _____ creep in.
 - Be on the _____ and take _____ to get them out of the way.
4. God's desire is for all to enjoy the _____ fruit of _____ that comes with good soil.

How's the soil in your life?

Start talking.

- Have you ever tried to grow something (a garden, plant, or project) that didn't turn out the way you expected? What happened?
- When you hear the Parable of the Sower, what images or memories immediately come to mind?

Start thinking:

- Why do you think Jesus tells this parable in a moment when people are responding so differently to His ministry?
- The same seed is scattered everywhere. What does that say about God's grace and how He offers the Kingdom to people?
- How does viewing the parable from the soil's perspective change the way you hear the story?
- How might our expectations of how God should work cause us to misjudge what He is actually doing in our lives or in others?

Start Sharing:

- Which type of soil do you most recognize in your life right now—and what makes you say that?
- Where do you notice hardness, shallowness, or weeds competing for space in your spiritual life?
- Can you share a season when God helped you move from one "soil condition" to another?

Start Praying:

- What part of Psalm 139's prayer—"Search me, O God..." feels most needed in your life right now?
- What is one area of your heart you want God to tend, soften, or clear this week?

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your love and grace, and that You know me so well. Thank You for your promise to help and protect us, uphold and support us, sustain and defend us, comfort and equip us, heal and help us. I pray that You would search my heart and expose anything that is hindering my relationship with You. Cleanse me from my sin, purify my heart, comfort any anxious thoughts, and draw me into closer fellowship with Yourself, from this day forward. This I ask in Jesus' name, AMEN.

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

- What is one practical step you can take this week to care for the soil of your heart?
- What "rock" or "weed" might God be inviting you to remove so His Word can grow more deeply in you?
- How can this group help support you in becoming more receptive to what God wants to grow in your life?