

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 08/20/23 Alex Seidler

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BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 13:1-58

3 "And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. **4** And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. **5** Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, **6** but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. **7** Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. **8** Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. **9** He who has ears, let him hear."

18 "Hear then the parable of the sower: **19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. **20** As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, **21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. **22** As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. **23** As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Other Passages: 1 John 4:4, Luke 8:4-15, Mark 4:1-20

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. How do you perceive the world around you? Are you confident God can move?
2. Are you sowing the Gospel? Talk about the last time you were able to share the Gospel.
3. Do you trust God? Take a moment and be vulnerable before God, what areas of your life are you not trusting him, consider sharing together.
4. Read this same parable in Mark 4:1-20, and Lk. 8:4-15—what stands out to you? Notice what is emphasized in each, what's the same, what's different. What might God be saying to you in each Gospel account of this parable.
5. What is a practical thing you can do this week to help foster your trust in God and sow more seed?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS