

June 6th 2015

Which Ground Am I?

Read the Mission Statement. Encourage everyone to be involved but to be sure and allow others to participate and to keep their comments on topic.

WELCOME: Going around the room, call each person's name and ask how many states they have lived in.

WORSHIP: Begin with a time of thanksgiving and worship to God. Encourage everyone to join in for a few minutes of corporate prayer and worship.

LESSON: Have someone read Matthew 13:3-8

In Matthew 13 Jesus tells a parable that mentions 4 types of ground that exists. On each type of ground the same seed was sown. Because each ground was different there was a different end result for the seed that was sown. Jesus then explains this parable in verses 18 – 23 (have someone read these verses).

DISCUSSION

1) What does the seed represent in the parable?
Word of God

2) What were the 4 types of ground in the parable?
Way side, stony, thorny, good ground

3) What does each type of ground present?
Way side – The carnal mind that hears the sermon but doesn't receive what is preached, doesn't care or doesn't believe it is for them. They don't understand it, not because it is too hard to understand but because they are not interested.
Stony – One that receives the Word and experiences the Holy Ghost but doesn't become faithful to church, does not take time to be disciplined. When hard times hit or possibly challenged by

the Word they get mad at God and quit coming to church.
Thorny – When someone receives the Word and their life begins to change for the better, God begins to bless them and the seed begins to grow. But now that life is not as hard and they are being blessed they lose focus. They become involved in other things in life that take their focus from God. And being blessed they now have more than enough so they wrongly believe they need God less.

Good – Someone that receives the Word and lets it change them. That seeks to know and understand God's Word and to also obey it. Not only do they know of God, they now live their lives so they produce fruit that is noticeable by others.

4) What is the same with every ground and why?

Example - The Seed, It was sown on each ground with the same potential.

5) If the different types of ground represent different hearts, which ground most accurately represents your heart?

Take a moment for people to think about it. Remind them of the differences between the grounds. Example – Good ground and thorny ground both believe, receive and go to church. The Thorny ground gets too busy for God. The good ground produces fruit that others see.

6) Why is there a difference between the amount of fruit that good ground can produce?

*“he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an **hundredfold**, some **sixty**, some **thirty**.” Matt 12:23*

*Example – Giftings, commitment levels, time - some peoples availability will only allow for **some** fruit*

7) What can we do to help others to become Good Ground? Or how did you become good ground?

8) If we can become Good Ground, can Good Ground become Thorny Ground or Stony Ground? If so how do you know if you are becoming a different type of ground other than the Good Ground?

PRAY: Have a moment of pray and commitment. Lead with a time of repenting and then encourage corporate commitment.

HOME FELLOWSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Home Groups to provide the Body of Christ a safe haven to minister to the needs of others by opening our homes in fellowship, joining together in worship, and encouraging each other to become more like Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Father's Day – June 18th

July 2nd – One Service at 9 AM