

**Sermon:** Responding to the Gospel; Bearing Fruit...  
**Series:** *Pictures of Disciple-Making*

**Scripture:** Matthew 13:1-23  
**Date:** May 30, 2021

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1) What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) Think through this powerful parable with God in mind as the ultimate sower. What does this parable teach us about God? About his salvation?

b) Think about the seed as the word of God (the gospel). What does the parable teach us about God's word?

**2) What does this passage teach us about us?**

a) How does the parable and the different soils relate to your own salvation experience? Do you see yourself as any one of these soils? Which one? OR...How did you become "good soil?"

b) How does this parable stress the importance of the Christian's endurance in the faith? Considering the first three soils, what things can get in the way of spiritual endurance? Can you identify any of these things in your life (is your heart shallow or divided)?

**3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

a) Where can you see God's grace bearing fruit in your life today? Help each other to see the fruit in each other's lives.

**APPLICATION**

a) Where, when, how can you sow the seeds of the gospel this week? Remember be lavish with your sowing.

**FIGHTER VERSES: Galatians 4:4-7.**

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for grace bearing fruit in your life.
- Repent of anything that is making your heart shallow or divided – receive the seed of Christ's good news.
- Ask God to help you sow the seeds of the gospel lavishly into the lives of others.