



OFFICE of CATECHESIS
AND EVANGELIZATION

Seeds of Faith Reflection

The Parable of the Sower - Matthew 13:3-9

“A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

Application of the Parable of the Sower

The emphasis of the parable is on the distinct types of soil on which the word falls. The soil represents four types of people and the ways in which the preaching of Jesus is received.

Identify or provide examples of contemporary situations and scenarios that relate to each type of soil (person).

1. Those who never accept the word.
2. Those who believe for a while but fall away because of persecution.
3. Those who believe, but the word is choked by worldly anxiety and the lure of riches.
4. Those who respond to the word and produce fruit abundantly.

Pray & Respond:

1. What thoughts stand out to you regarding the above information?
2. How does this relate to you and your approach to ministry this year?

Are you: Thriving ??? or Surviving???

<p>I am Thriving in these LIFE areas (family, job, school, work, friends, health, etc.)</p>	<p>I am Thriving in these SPIRITUAL areas (sacraments, community, prayer, service)</p>
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What is merely **Surviving** in your Life?

<p>I am surviving in these LIFE areas (family, job, school, work, friends, health, etc.)</p>	<p>I am surviving in these SPIRITUAL areas:(sacraments, community, prayer, service)</p>
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Reflect:

1. What specifically do you surrender to the Lord today?
2. How might the Lord be prompting you to pray, respond, or act

Reflect on the Words from scripture. Which verse in each passage speaks to you?

The Privilege of Discipleship – Matthew 13:16 - 17

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

The Explanation of the Parable of the Sower – Matthew 13:18-23

“Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word, and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

The Parable of the Weeds Among the Wheat – Matthew 13: 24 - 30

He proposed another parable to them. “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds* all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ His slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest;* then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, “First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

The Parable of the Mustard Seed – Matthew 13: 31 - 32

He proposed another parable to them. “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”

Prayer - Loving Father, you have called me to serve you. May I be faithful to this call, rooted in your Word, and open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Amen.