

January 22, 2017

The Contemplative Life

The Soils of our Hearts and Minds

Mark 4:1-20 (NIV)

³ "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.

⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.

⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.

⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."

⁹ Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Sower:

Seed:

How does the seed come to us?

The Soils:

1. The Hardened Pathway

2. The Rocky Soil

3. The Thorny Soil

4. The Good Soil

How do we become better soil?

Psalm 119:164 (NIV)

¹⁶⁴ **Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous laws.**

¹³ **You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.**

Jeremiah 29:11-14 (NIV)

This Week

Recommended passages to read and meditate on:

- Psalms 27
- Mark 4:1-20
- Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)

Memorize:

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple

Psalm 27:4 (NIV)