

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## Breaking the soil - Part 2 Sowing in the soil

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### Introduction

The Parable of the Sower is a powerful reminder of our role in sharing God's Word. Pastor Mark teaches that 'the Sower' represents anyone who spreads the Gospel, 'the seed' is the Word of God, and the different soils are the hearts of those who hear. Jesus teaches us that our responsibility is to sow, not to judge the soil or force growth. The results belong to God. As we explore this parable, let's reflect on our faithfulness in sowing God's Word and the different ways this challenges and encourages us.

### Read

Mark 4:1-20

### Discuss

1. The Gospel is for everyone. How does knowing that the seed is to be scattered regardless of the condition of the soil challenge our approach to sharing the Word?
2. What do the different types of soil represent? Why do you think Jesus focused more on the reasons for failure than on the success of the harvest?
3. In what areas or platforms of your life—home, work, school, recreation—are you called to sow God's Word? How can you be more intentional about sharing, even when it feels like no one is listening?
4. How can we maintain hope and keep praying for those who seem unresponsive or hardened? What does it mean to be a faithful worker rather than a successful one?
5. Jesus' parable is also a warning to seasoned believers to check the soil of our own hearts. How can even long-time Christians become like the unproductive soils?

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6. What practical steps can we take to ensure our hearts remain fertile and receptive to God's Word? How can we continue to grow in our own faith while encouraging others?

### **Respond**

As you reflect on this parable, consider the condition of your own heart. Are there areas where you need to become more receptive to God's Word? Ask God to soften hard places, remove distractions, and deepen your roots in Him. This week, seek opportunities to sow His Word at home, work, or in daily activities. Remember, your role is to sow; God makes things grow. Who has God placed on your heart, and how can you take a small, faithful step to sow into their life this week?