

Kingdom of God is like...

- A treasure that is buried in the ground. It is full of incredible value. It is worth any sacrifice to have it.
- It may begin small and insignificant, but when placed in the hearts of faithful people, it can make a big impact.

Planting Seeds

Matthew 13:31-32 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

1. THE KINGDOM IS A SEED

The Kingdom is like a seed, and it grows when it is planted in the right environment.

Matthew 13:3-9 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

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2. THE SEED IS THE GOSPEL SOWN INTO PEOPLE'S HEARTS

Matthew 13:18-23 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

3. IT'S NOT A PROBLEM WITH THE SEED, IT'S A PROBLEM WITH THE SOIL

The beaten path - Your heart has become calloused.

Most of the time this person has heard the right things but has pushed them away enough times that they are no longer familiar with conviction. They are numb.

The rocky soil - When trouble comes, the shallow roots that had developed are scorched by the sun. Their commitment to Jesus remains shallow.

The soil full of weeds and thorns – “and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. “

The good soil - It produces a crop that is 100, 60, and 30 times what is sown. It is supernatural.

The good news is that you are not stuck with your current state of soil!

Reflection Questions:

1. What is the condition of the soil in your life?
2. Are you ready to turn to Jesus and let Him do the necessary work in your life to help you position yourself in a place where the Gospel seed can grow?