

Gardening the Heart 6

Four Kinds of Ground

Pastor Duane Sheriff



Key Scripture: Mark 4:13-20

Scriptures: Mark 4:15; Matthew 13:18-19; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Mark 4:12; Mark 4:16-17, Psalms 119:165; Matthew 6:33; Mark 4:18-19; Philippians 4:6; Hebrews 13:5; Luke 12:15; Mark 4:20; Genesis 2:5-6

Take Away: We choose to hear (Ask, Seek and Knock) - “he that has an ear to hear, let him hear”

Accept or reject the truth (seed)

The Word (seed) changes us and our lives.

Start Talking: *Find a Conversation Starter for Your Group.*

Tell the group about the first time you grew a plant from a seed. When was it? Was it at school, home?

Start Thinking: *Ask a Thoughtful Question*

Sometimes we choose to harden ourselves to some of the counsel of the Word. If it makes us uncomfortable or touches too close to home we tend to avoid it or choose not to consider it. What are some of the seeds you have learned that you struggled to implement?

Start Sharing: *Choose Questions that Create Openness*

What kinds of behavior would you see in someone whose heart is “wayside”?

How would you think someone would react to the Word who has a “stony ground” heart?

Discuss the three types of weeds that choke out the Word in “thorny ground”.

Start Praying: *Be bold and pray with power.*

Father, explore my heart. Show me the stones and the hardness. Show me what things are thwarting out your Word. I want to be good ground to your word. You have every right to sow Your seed in my heart. I will endeavor to guard it and keep it and let it take root. Father root out offense in my heart and sow forgiveness.

Start Doing: *Walk It Out*

Share or journal anything that comes to mind that you feel has been stopping certain Word from taking root in your heart.

Who is it that you need to release and let go of offense so that more of Gods seeds of forgiveness can take root in your heart?