

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

FOUR TYPES OF SOIL

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

The Sower: Jesus (Also Possibly a Believer as Christ Works Through Them)

The Seed: the Gospel

The Soil: Human Hearts

Of these three elements, the Sower (Jesus) and the Seed (the Gospel) don't change. They are stable, they are whole and unbroken. However the Soil (Human Hearts) are the variable.

Soil #1: Hears the Good News but it's immediately rejected because the enemy has deceived. The person has already decided to believe "another gospel" and refuses to budge.

Soil #2: Hears the Word and has a "positive religious experience," and even endures for a while (even years), taking part in religious activity. But eventually they leave the faith and reject Christ by either word or deed, or both.

Soil #3: Hears the Word and understands, and to some point even acknowledges or agrees in some aspects of its truthfulness, but makes a decision instead to follow after the cares of the world.

Soil #4: Hears the truth of the Gospel and really believes. Their hearts are converted from inside and their life subsequently changes for the long haul.

WHICH SOIL ARE YOU?

1 John 2.3-6 // 1 John 2.19 // 2 Corinthians 13.5

How do we know if we are really believers who have been adopted by God our Father? There will be a consistent and long term (even if slow) growing of both inward fruit and outward fruit, as well as a continual diminishing of inward bad fruit and outward bad fruit.

But this is tricky, especially when we are dealing with others. Ultimately, we cannot judge whether someone is truly a believer. They may have little to no fruit, but we know that this passage tells us that we all bear fruit in different amounts, and we also know that there are such things as prodigal sons.

**Don't assume the best, but don't judge for the worse.
Pray for a broken heart.**

THE LORD OF THE HARVEST

1 Corinthians 3.5-9

At the end of the day, we trust that both Jesus and the Gospel will work sovereignly. Our job is to be faithful as ministers of reconciliation.

NOTES:

Will You Pray With Us?

Follow along with our daily prayer requests by downloading the **PrayerMate App**, available on both **iOS** and **Android** phones. Go to our website for detailed instructions on how to subscribe to the app to be praying with us daily, as well as reading through our **2 Year Bible Reading Plan**.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a **Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at **lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give** or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6th grade** and is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please visit **lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids** to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **7th & 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to their class for the rest of service.

Our **High School students** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at **hbarnes5@yahoo.com**.

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

CONTACT US:

Jobey McGinty // Lead Pastor
jobey@lifemission.tv

Eric Price // Elder Candidate & Community
eric@lifemission.tv

Pete Christopher // Technical Arts
pete@lifemission.tv

Matt Piro // Worship Leader
matt@lifemission.tv

Katie McGinty // Kids on Mission
katie@lifemission.tv

Kim Roberson // Administration
kim@lifemission.tv

Rachel Jobin // Connection
rachel.jobin@gmail.com

Life Mission Church

Call or Text: 760-975-4525
PO Box 908, San Marcos, CA 92079

www.LifeMissionChurch.com
Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch
Twitter: @YourLifeMission
YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**. What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday or from these verses? _____

Who is the sower in the story? What's the seed? What's the soil? _____

Read **1 John 2:19** and **2 Corinthians 13:5**. How can you tell whether or not you have fallen amongst good soil? In other words, how do you know that you are truly a believer? _____

We know that some people will produce bountiful fruit, that is, recognizable to everyone, while other may produce more subtle, slow growing, fruit. Both are good! Are you producing fruit? Share some of the fruit that God is producing in your life *currently*. Share *recent* or *current* examples of both inner and outer fruit.

Read **Matthew 13:18-23** again. Unfortunately, we all know people who fit into each of these categories. There is often a fine line however between those whose seed falls amongst thorns and those that fall amongst good soil. What can you do to ensure that you're caring for the "soil" of your heart? _____

Read **Matthew 28:16-20**. After the resurrection of Jesus, we receive the Great Commission. As we see in **1 Corinthians 3:5-9**, we now become the sower (since we are ambassadors of Christ) and are responsible for casting seed and providing the water. Ultimately, one's salvation falls back on the sovereignty of God. We are simply called to be obedient. So, how and to whom are you sowing? Are you casting seed at home with your spouse? Your kids? At work? With friends? How do you "water"? _____

Read **Proverbs 4:20-23, 2 Timothy 4:2-5, Hebrews 4:12-13, and Colossians 3:12-17**. Do you hesitate to share the Gospel with unbelievers? How about believers who need a reminder? What stops you? What does this reveal about your heart, and what can you do initiate change? _____

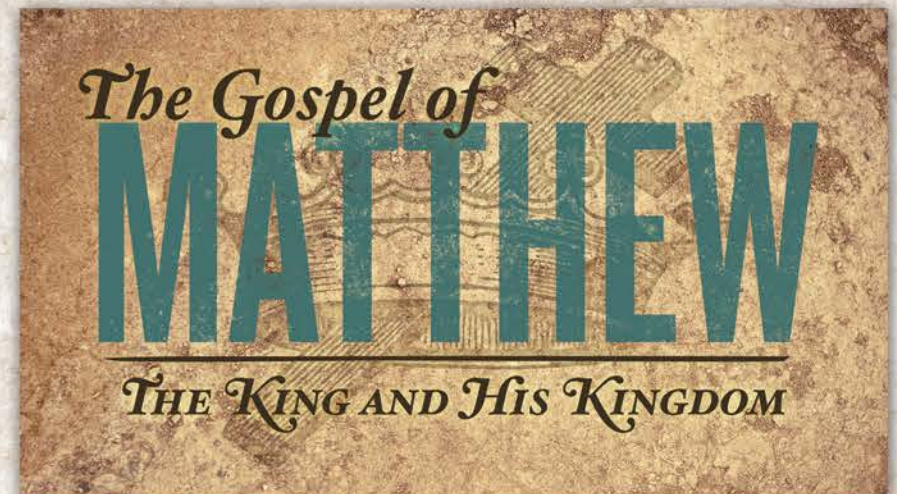
Lastly, pray as a group using the **P.R.A.Y.** model. Pray for an increased desire for the Word of God, prayer, and Gospel community, so that the seed that God has cast may be continually watered and find healthy soil in your heart.



LIFE MISSION
CHURCH

Pastor Jobey McGinty
jobey@lifemission.tv

Equipping a Gospel-Centered Community in the Word of God,
To Live Out a Gospel-Centered Life Mission to the Glory of God.



PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23 // May 24, 2015

9AM & 10:45AM SERVICES

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025



/LifeMissionChurch



LifeMissionChurch.com



@YourLifeMission



/LifeMissionTV