



Daily Reflections

January 27, 2021

Scripture

Mark 4:1-20

And again he began to teach by the sea side; and a great multitude was gathered together unto him, so that he went up into a ship, and sat in the sea; and all the multitude was upon the land by the sea side.

And he taught them many things in parables, and said unto them in his doctrine:

Hear ye: Behold, the sower went out to sow.

And whilst he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the birds of the air came and ate it up.

And other some fell upon stony ground, where it had not much earth; and it shot up immediately, because it had no depth of earth.

And when the sun was risen, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

And some fell upon good ground; and brought forth fruit that grew up, and increased and yielded, one thirty, another sixty, and another a hundred.

And he said: He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

And when he was alone, the twelve that were with him asked him the parable.

And he said to them: To you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but to them that are without, all things are done in parables:

That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand: lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

And he saith to them: Are you ignorant of this parable? and how shall you know all parables?

He that soweth, soweth the word.

And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown, and as soon as they have heard, immediately Satan cometh and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

And these likewise are they that are sown on the stony ground: who when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with joy.

And they have no root in themselves, but are only for a time: and then when tribulation and persecution ariseth for the word they are presently scandalized.
And others there are who are sown among thorns: these are they that hear the word, And the cares of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts after other things entering in choke the word, and it is made fruitless.
And these are they who are sown upon the good ground, who hear the word, and receive it, and yield fruit, the one thirty, another sixty, and another a hundred.

Our Scripture Reflection

Today's most important Gospel parable highlights the need for each of us to respond full-heartedly to Jesus' revelation to us. To be true disciples means to receive His word with an open and grateful heart and to put it into practice in our daily lives. In doing so, we can be assured that good fruit will be produced in abundance.

Food for your Journey

Want to see a miracle? Take a small seed, put it under several inches of dirt. Give it light, water and fertilizer. It doesn't matter that the ground is a zillion times the weight of the seed. The seed will push it back! Never underestimate the power of a seed.

James, the epistle writer, wasn't a farmer. But he knew the power of a seed sown in fertile soil. "Those who are peacemakers," he said, "will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness" (James 3:18).

How good are you at sowing seeds of peace? Jesus modeled peace through acts of love, washing the feet of men he knew would betray him, and honoring the sinful woman whom society had scorned.

Want to see a miracle? Plant a word of love heart-deep in a person's life. Nurture it with a smile and a prayer, and watch what happens!

--Max Lucado, "The power of a seed," maxlucado.com. January 24, 2014. Retrieved October 13,

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious Lord, Open my mind and heart completely so that I may receive Your Holy Word with joy. Through my daily efforts at living Your Gospel may I produce an abundant harvest that will give You glory and honor and draw others to Your heart. Amen