

INTRO

If you could have one "crop" growing in your backyard (and it would grow there once a year) what would it be?

READING

Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

DISCUSSION

- 1. Why do you think Jesus used the image of soil to describe our hearts?
- 2. If you were to compare your heart to one of the soils in this parable today, which would it most resemble?
- 3. Jesus talks about the three "bad" soils.
 - a. The Path (v. 15): What kinds of distractions or influences in life harden our hearts toward hearing God's Word?
 - b. The Rocky Soil (v.16-17): Have you ever faced trials or challenges that made it difficult to stay rooted in faith? How did you respond?
 - c. The Thorny Soil (v.18-19): What thorns (worries, desires, or distractions) do you personally struggle with?
- 4. How can you practically "weed out" those distractions to make room for spiritual growth?
- 5. And then there's the Good Soil (v. 29): What does it look like to actively cultivate "good soil" in your heart? How have you experienced fruitfulness in your life or someone else's when the Word took deep root?

NOTES:	