



## Series title: The Kingdom of God

### Session title: Prepare the soil of your heart

Read through the parable

The Sower is God – the variable is the soil - us! It is not about us sowing seed and people responding in different ways. This is about the condition of our hearts and responsiveness to God. It's there for us to wrestle with and through it, to be refined.

Jesus is an Eastern Rabbi and teaches in parables, so people won't understand and will have to choose to understand, dig for revelation, and be determined to change.

Jesus uses a familiar Eastern teaching template here and talks about the 4 types of learners, relating to the 4 types of soil.

Path – no understanding

Rocks – shallow in understanding, not deeply rooted

Weeds/Thorns – trying to pursue the good life, doing things the world's way

Good soil – prepared.

This parable shows we have to prepare and till our heart soil or we won't see, hear or understand God's words.

How? Look for hints from OT

Path: Hosea 10:12: Sow righteousness, break up unploughed ground through generosity and kindness

Rocks: Isaiah 5, Jeremiah 17 re deep roots – through delighting in God's word/law

Weeds/Thorns: Jeremiah 4 deal with idolatry; the lust for empire, wealth and greed

#### Talk it through together

- Take a moment to ask God what is the condition of the soil of your heart? Ask Him how to till the soil of your heart. Share or journal His responses.

#### Resources

##### Listen to:

Bema Episode 109

##### Read through:

Matthew 13:3-9,18-23

##### Watch:

Mountain of  
unbelief

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=td1LPcvBWwk>