

**Parable of the Soils**  
**Mark 4:1-20**

**SERMON POINTS**

- **The Sower**
- **The Soil**
  - The hard heart
  - The shallow heart
  - The divided heart
  - The good heart

**KEY TAKEAWAY →**

“It is not so much that God has a mission for his church in the world, but that God has a church for his mission in the world.” (Chris Wright [The mission of God](#))

**QUESTIONS:**

**Q:** Of all the people you know, who is the most winsome person in sharing their faith? What makes them so winsome?

**Q:** Who shared the gospel with you? Think about the details—who, how, what, when? How did God work in your life?

**Q:** Do you find it difficult to share your faith? Why or why not? Does our current cultural context make it easier or more difficult to share your faith?

**Q:** What are the four types of soil in the parable? Who were the most hardhearted people towards Jesus in his day? In what ways can religious people be more closed off to the gospel than “sinners”?

**Q:** Describe the person who is rocky or shallow soil? What does that look like in our lives?

**Q:** The shallow soil falls away when bad things happen, and the divided heart (soil with thorns and weeds) falls away when good things happen (wealth, success). In what way can success cause us to fall away as much as trial and difficulty?

**Q:** The parable of the sower/soils is about the fact that we are called to sow (God has a church for his mission). We sow through loving our neighbor and sharing the gospel through our witness. The gospel proves to be a litmus test and some people are “good soil” because God has been at work in their lives. What is the person who is “good soil” like?

## **Other Scripture:**

### **Mark 2:17**

And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

-1Mission Homebuilding trip to Rock Point, Mexico is coming up President’s Day weekend. If you are going, please register online by January 14. Email Jonas Zamora (Jonas.zamora@gmail.com) with any questions about the trip. Registration is at [chandler.newvalleychurch.org/events](http://chandler.newvalleychurch.org/events)

-Catechism class starts January 14<sup>th</sup> during 1<sup>st</sup> service (9am) and will be covering the New City Catechism