

## Discussion Questions:

1. The longing for fruitfulness runs deep in our souls. This desire is an echo from creation and it points to God's intent for our lives, that we would lead lives that would teem with fruitfulness. In your own life, describe a personal desire for fruitfulness. Is there a dream that keeps calling you, a goal you keep wanting to pursue, a gift you feel drawn to use and perfect?
2. Our lives are built on the principle of sowing. Our reactions, perspectives, and decisions are all shaped by the things that have been sown into our lives. As you reflect on your life, what are some experiences that have been sown into your soul that you continue to see fruit (whether good or bad) born from that?
3. Jesus teaches that his Kingdom is akin to a farmer sowing seed in a field. Some of these seeds will never produce fruit, but the seeds that produce fruit will yield an incredible harvest. According to Matthew 13:23 what is necessary for the word of God to bear fruit in our lives?
4. Though understanding God's word is crucial for fruit to be born in our life, thankfully high intellect is not a prerequisite for God's word to infuse life into us. In this parable Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9-11, referencing the unbelief of Israel as the greatest hindrance to God's word bearing fruit in our lives. In your life, describe a struggle with unbelief.
5. Even though our hearts are prone towards unbelief, thus making it difficult for God's word to bear fruit, Jesus gives us good news in his pronouncement of blessing over his disciples. Our relationship with Jesus as his disciples provides the grace needed for our hearts to be transformed to good soil, soil that receives God's word deeply. In your walk with God, how has God been transforming your heart? In what areas of your life have you seen God growing fruit?
6. We find out what we truly trust in during seasons of stress and pressure or when we lose something that we didn't realize we were overly dependent on. Describe a time in your life when you became aware of what you were trusting more than trusting in Christ.
7. Share your prayer requests with 2-3 people