**Farmer =*God***​ **Seed = *God’s Word*Soil = *4 types of Hearts***

**KEY:** It’s Our RESPONSE To The Gospel! Parable not about 4 different kind of people but its about me everyday and my willingness to hear.

* **Hard soil = Closed Mind, Hard hearts –**

***14****The* ***farmer*** *sows the word.* ***15****Some people are like* ***seed along the path****, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.*  Mark 4:14-15

* **Shallow soil = Superficial Mind, Shallow hearts –**

***16****Others, like seed* ***sown on rocky places****, hear the word and at once receive it with joy.****17****But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.*  Mark 4:16-17

* **Thorny soil = Preoccupied Mind, Thorny Heart**

***18****Still others, like seed* ***sown among thorns,*** *hear the word;****19****but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.*  Mark 4:18-19

* **Good soil = Willing Mind, Receptive Heart**

***20****Others, like seed* ***sown on good soil,*** *hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”* Mark 4:20

### The Parable of the Mustard Seed

***30****Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?****31****It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth.****32****Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”* Mark 4:26-32

***33****With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand.****34****He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.* Mark 4:33-34

**MARK Chapter 4: “JESUS TEACHES LIFE-LESSONS WITH PARABLES”**

*Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the* ***water’s edge.******2****He taught them many things by* ***parables,****and in his teaching said:*  Mark 4:1-2

***Parables:*** literally, something “cast alongside”, I.e. “cast alongside” a truth in order to illustrate that truth… thought of as extended analogies or inspired comparisons. An earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Jesus taught **35 parables**.

***3****“Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.****4****As he was scattering the seed, some* ***fell along the path****, and the birds came and ate it up.* Mark 4:3-4

***5****Some* ***fell on******rocky places****, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.****6****But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.* Mark 4:5-6

***7****Other seed* ***fell among thorns****, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.* Mark 4:7

***8****Still other seed* ***fell on good soil.*** *It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.”* ***9****Then Jesus said, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”* Mark 4:8-9

**FOUR SOILS: Hard soil / Shallow soil / Thorny soil / Good soil**

***10****When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.****11****He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables****12****so that, “‘they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!’”* ***13****Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable?* Mark 4:10-13

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