Seed Thoughts Mark Lesson 8

**Lesson 8 – Seed Thoughts**

**Mark 4:3-32**

**Day 1 – Review**

1. What challenged or encouraged you from the lecture, and how did it help you
in your Christian walk?

2. What in the notes helped you to understand God’s Word, and how did you
apply it?

*Note: This week we will take a closer look at the three parables taught by Jesus in Mark 4—the parable of the sower, the parable of the seed growing, and the parable
of the mustard seed.*

**Day 2 – Read Mark 4:3-20 Parable of the Sower**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson today. A possible verse to pray through is Mark 4:20. Father, I pray today to hear Your word that is being sown in my heart and to be prepared as the good soil to accept it and bear abundant fruit.*

3. In Mark 4:3 who does the sower (farmer) represent?

4. What are the three different soils, and what keeps them from receiving the seed?

5. What is different about the good soil? (Mark 4:8)

6. What is the tremendous significance of this parable taught by Jesus? Refer to verse 13.

**7. Thought Question:** Are these soils different types of people or are they different conditions of the heart?

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**8. Personal Question**: Do you see yourself represented in the different soils? Which soil best describes your heart when it comes to hearing/accepting God’s Word? How are you preparing your heart (soil) for God’s Word?

*Apply this day: Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart for the secret of the Kingdom of God and to bear much fruit. (Mark 4:11,20)*

**Day 3 – Read Mark 4:14-20 Parable of the Sower**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson today.*

8. Read Mark 4:14 and Matthew 13:19. What does the seed represent?

9. According to Mark 4:15, what two things happened to some people when the word was sown along the path?

10. ***Thought Question:*** How would you describe the condition of the heart of someone who hears God’s Word, but then Satan immediately steals away what that person has heard?

11. Describe the three things that happen to the word sown in the other two types of soil (that is, what is the condition of their hearts):

Verses 16-17 (the rocky ground)

Verses 18-19 (the thorns)

12. ***Personal Question:*** Can you think of a time in your life when your heart was hardened, shallow or choked, so that you were unable to listen attentively to and abide in God’s Word?

13. What three things happen to the word sown in the good soil? (i.e. in a seeking and submissive heart)

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*Apply this day: Examine your heart when God’s Word is being sown in you. What is your heart’s desire? Are you listening and seeking His righteousness or are you self-seeking after your own preconceived opinions and desires?*

**Day 4–Read Mark 4:26-29 The Parable of the Seed Growing**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson today.*

14. What does Jesus say this parable illustrates?

15. What do you learn from I Corinthians 3:6-7 about how God works in people’s lives when we give out His Word?

16. What two things does the man do in this parable, and what happens automatically?

17. ***Thought Question:*** We are called to plant (share God’s Word with others) as well as to harvest (share the Gospel and lead someone to salvation), but are we responsible for how the seed (or Word of God) grows in another person’s heart?

18. ***Personal Question:*** What spiritual principle can you apply to your life from this parable as well as from Isaiah 26:12?

*Apply this day: Are you allowing God’s Word to take root and grow within you? First take time to fill up in Him and then give out His word. Be patient and trust God with the results.*

**Day 5–Read Mark 4:30-32 The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson today.*

19. Jesus compares the kingdom of God to the mustard seed. How does He describe the size of this seed?

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*Note: Mustard seeds were particularly small seeds that grew into large shrubs when fully grown.*

20. ***Thought Question:*** Read Luke 17:20. Do you think the people were expecting Jesus to compare the kingdom of God to something with a small beginning?

21. What do you learn about humility from the following verses?

Matthew 18:3-4-

Matthew 23:11-12: –

Ephesians 4: 1-2 –

Philippians 2:3 –

22. ***Personal Question:*** Read Matthew 17:20 and Luke 1:37. We are to be humble, but God is almighty. How can you apply this to your life?

23. Consider the illustration Jesus gives in Mark 4:32 of the tiny mustard seed which, once it is sown, grows up into a bush large enough for the birds to build nests in its shade. What does this large plant represent? (Read Revelation 11:15 to help with your answer)

*Apply this day: Are you looking for status and personal gain, or are you seeking to humble yourself before God. Pray and submit yourself to the Lord and allow Him to grow the Kingdom of God through you.*

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**Day 6 – Reread Mark 4:21-22 (SOAP)**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson today.*

**Scripture** – *Write the verses.*

**Observation** – *Record something you learned from this verse*. *Possible questions to ask for observation: What principle do I learn? What warning should I heed? What commandment should I obey? What aspect of God’s character do I see?*

**Application** – *How can I apply this verse to my life?*

**Prayer** – *Pray to God, praise Him, and ask Him for what you need in response to what you learned. Write down your prayer.*