



PICTURE
THIS...

A sower went to sow.....

HOW THE PARABLES OF JESUS GIVES US HOPE
THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER



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SOIL TYPES

- Blind heart, blind faith: “seed that fell along the path”
- Rocky/unsteady heart, rocky faith: “seed that fell on rock”
- Rebellious/unwavering heart, rebel faith: “seed that fell among thorns”
- Remaining/steadfast heart, remaining faith: “seed that fell on good soil”



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THEME #1: THE THORNS

What are the thorns telling us?

Dig into the thorns that show up in your life or tighten around your faith

Do your “heartwork” to break down the false characteristics of God

Identify in yourself the injustices that you enable

God will be with you in the questioning and dismantling of the thorns. You will find a truer version of Him and yourself at the end.



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THEME #2: THE SOWER

What kind of sower is He?

Jesus came to bring the kingdom to earth - for everyone.

He sows seeds far and wide, with holy abandon. He doesn't pick and choose who is good enough to hear.

God is a loving, giving, gracious God...and this parable is about his generous grace.

God is still sowing seeds and wants the stories of our life to come to fullness. He's FOR us in this season and always.



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**THEME #3: THE NEED FOR
DECISION, RESPONSE, AND
PERSEVERANCE**

What part do we have to play?

We have a responsibility to prepare the soil and cultivate for a rich harvest.

Jesus is inviting us to change and care for what God planted within us – break up the soil, dig up the rocks, remove the thorns and weeds.

We need to be more than receptive but persevere with “patient endurance” to do the extraordinary work.

God is calling us “farm” our hearts during this season to do the hard work of becoming better disciples of Jesus: pray, discern, do things that take us outside ourselves and our comforts.



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Take-aways:

1. Listen to the Thorns
2. Receive God's grace and recognize those unknown limits – he is FOR US
3. Prepare for change and persevere in it with patience

The harvest always comes – even if different than we expect it – and it will be greater than we can imagine. Lean into what your heart is holding so you can be firmly rooted in Jesus' hope for the kingdom here on earth.

