

Roots That Go Deep

TEXT: Mark 4:1-20

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Matthew 13:1-9; Luke 8:4-15; 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

KEY VERSE: Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

— John 15:8

The parable of the “Sower and the Seed” is one that applies anytime God’s Word goes forth. The sower sows the seed, the seed is God’s Word, and the ground is the soul in whom the seed is sown. Within the four classes of ground discussed in this lesson, each person can be found.

1. What is a parable?

2. Why do you think Jesus sometimes used parables when teaching?

3. Jesus often said, “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.” What do you think that means?

4. What happened to the seed that fell by the wayside? How does that describe the spiritual awareness of some people?

5. What happened to the seed that fell upon stony ground? What spiritual characteristics does the stony ground describe?

6. What happened to the seed that fell among the thorns? How does thorny ground parallel with the spiritual life of some?

7. How can we prepare ourselves to be good ground? Make a list of suggestions.

8. Do you think it is better to produce thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold?

9. Look up the references for the following Bible characters and write down what type of ground you think they represented. Be prepared to explain your answers.

A. Saul — 1 Samuel 28:15

B. Solomon — 1 Kings 11:4

C. Belshazzar — Daniel 5:22,23

D. Zacchaeus — Luke 19:6,8

E. Judas — John 6:70,71

F. Felix — Acts 24:25

G. Paul — 2 Timothy 4:7,8

H. Demas — Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:10