





 **WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?** *Field any related Q's to the sermon or reading.*

 **GROUP WARM UP** Parables... Jesus used this creative genre of a teaching tool to communicate many truths that, up to that point, had not been known or understood regarding the nature of the kingdom of God or its true followers. Off the top of your heads, **which of Jesus' parables do you most appreciate and which are you most confused by?** You could run all of these you mention down and look at them or just mention and move on to those recorded by Mark - your choice...

 **SPIN OFF Q&A'S** Read the following parables then answer the Q's...

 **Parable #1 Mark 4:1-20** *If you had to give this a title, would you call this "The Parable of the Sower",... "the Soils" or... "the Seed"? Or something else? and why...*

Look at v. 13. Is Jesus making understanding this parable key to understanding all others or is he questioning their lack of understanding of parables in general?

What is a key to understanding parables and not getting sidetracked into areas never intended by Jesus?


Do you know people who fit into the description of each of these types of soil? Pray for people you know have heard the word, received it to some extent, but then quickly fell away.

Describe how each of these scenarios has happened in your own hearing of God's word.


How does vv. 24 & 25 shed light on this parable's meaning?

 **Parable #2 Mark 4:26-29**

What is the most important thing to take away from this parable? What aspect of the kingdom does this help us understand?

 **Parable #3 Mark 4:30-34** Here, Jesus is "presenting" the kingdom of God... *How does this parable explain truth about the kingdom?*

What do all three of these parables have in common? Do you think this is a coincidence?

 One last thing to mark... look at **Mark 3:31-35**, there in the beginning of the gospel. This passage often bothers people. Then take a look at **Mark 13:11-13**. **What is Jesus preparing us to see regarding family?**

FURTHER READING *(Scripture for Daily Reading)*

Day 1 **Exodus 8** Day 2 **Exodus 9** Day 3 **Mark 13:1-23**

Day 4 **Psalms 17** Day 5 **Mark 13:24-37** Day 6 **Psalms 18**