

Sower's Lesson

Week of April 27 - Mar. 3, 2020

Introduction

Jesus grew up in Nazareth far away from Jerusalem in the northern region of Galilee. He spent most of his ministry in the neighboring town of Capernaum. This town was strategically located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee where fishermen, tradesmen, and farmers all interacted. It was both urban and rural, Jewish and Gentile. It was to such a mixed audience, that Jesus taught and explained the Kingdom of God. As was his custom, Jesus used stories to convey the simple truths of faith. His theology was built with everyday experiences.

Lesson Mark 4:1-9

¹Again 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. ²He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: ³"Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."

⁹Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

Questions

1. How are all the soils the same?
2. What are the different kinds of soil in this story?
3. Why are there four soils? Wouldn't one soil make the point?

4. What are the kinds of soil at this point in your life?
5. What parable do you identify with the most?
6. In the past, what has kept your heart from being the good soil?

Prayer

God of the Word, in the parable of the sower you showed us how your word can take root and grow within us. Nurture the seeds of your word in our hearts and help us to grow in faith and love. Amen