

THE RED LETTERS

What did Jesus *actually* say?

Bad Sermon?

Matthew 13

1. There is nothing wrong with the Good News (seed). The problem is with the listener's heart (soil).

2. The followers of Jesus will live together with those who reject Him until the end of this age. Then they will be separated to destruction and to glory.

3. When you discover the value of God's kingdom, you will give everything you have to acquire it.

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Describe the worst sermon you ever heard. What made it so bad? Why would the disciples question Jesus about preaching in parables? (See Matthew 13:10)
2. Have you ever been rejected when sharing the Gospel? Describe that experience. How does Jesus' teaching on the farmer sowing seed help us with this rejection?
3. Read Matthew 13:24-30, 37-43, and 47-51. What is the meaning of these two parables? What is the Holy Spirit saying to you right now?
4. How much do you value being part of the kingdom of heaven? Read Matthew 13:44-45. Does it fill you with joy enough to sacrifice all to follow Jesus? Explain your thoughts.

MEMORY VERSE

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field."

Matthew 13:44