



Sermon Outline

Key verse

The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

Matthew 13:22

Spiritual fruitfulness in Scripture

1. Fruit of the Spirit

Love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23

2. Holiness

Having been set free from sin and having become enslaved to God, you have your fruit resulting in holiness. And the outcome is eternal life.

Romans 6:22

3. Generosity

A contribution to the poor...

Romans 15:28

4. Good works

Live a life worthy of the Lord... bearing fruit in every good work.

Colossians 1:10

5. Praise

Offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Hebrews 13:15

6. Soul-winning

I planned to come to you – so I might have some fruit among you.

Romans 1:13

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

JUNE 9
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

We all love a good story. This summer we are studying twelve of the best stories - the parables of Jesus. Come sit at his feet and find out what he teaches about his kingdom, salvation, and wise living. His first parable is about a farmer who sowed seeds. Our hearts are like soil into which the gospel is planted. Are you ready to hear the Word? Are you ready to dwell in it and allow it to dwell in you? Are you willing to share the word and plant gospel seeds yourself?

Ice breaker

- Do you have a green thumb? What are you most successful at growing? Least successful?
- Do you consider yourself a good listener?

Dig Deeper

- As you consider the four soils mentioned in this parable, which of them best describes your response when you first heard the gospel?
- What have you found to be the most helpful in helping you grow spiritually?
- What “thorns” and “rocky places” tend to choke out your spiritual growth?
- John shared six passages that describe spiritual fruit in the Bible. Point out one you see in another group member.
- Read 1 Peter 1:22-23. What part challenges you the most?
- Jesus says that the seed on the path represents people who hear the good news but don’t understand it. (Matthew 13:19) What can we do to help others better hear and understand the good news?
- What stood out to you from today’s sermon?

Closing

Thank the Lord for the ways he has opened your heart to his word. Invite him to continue to work in your life. Ask the Lord to show you the places where he wants to till and cultivate in order to prepare you to hear his word, dwell in his word, and share his word with others.