

Matthew 13:1-15, 18-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:11-15

The Parable of the Sower

The New Testament * Week 6 * Opening Collect: Proper 17, BCP 233
SERMON ON THE MOUNT (continued from last week):

- I. Matthew 6:25-33 Provision = “Seek ye first”

- II. Matthew 7:1-5 Judging others =

Verse 6

- III. Matthew 7:7-8 Asking, seeking, knocking =

- IV. Verse 12 Golden Rule/Silver Rule

- V. Verses 13-14 Narrow Gate =

- VI. Matthew 7:15-20 Trees and fruit =
Galatians 5:22-23 – Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control

- VII. Matthew 7:24-27 Wise and foolish builders =

Thus ends the Sermon on the Mount/Plain. Now to **Parables**.

- I. What’s a Parable
 - A. “A story with a twist” ^

 - B. “A story with layers of meaning.”

 - C. Why did he use them?
 1. Stories more interesting

 2. Oral cultures.

 3. To protect unbelievers
 - a) Mark 3:20-22 --

 - b) Mark 3:23-30 –

 - c) Matthew 12:25-29, Luke 11:17-22

- II. The Parable of the Sower – Mark 4:1-9

III. Disciples questions – Mark 4:10-14

A. Isaiah 6:9-10 –

1. Isaiah's call (Verses 1-9). "Send me!"
2. "Tell them...". Romans 1:18-32 –

B. Key parable to all others.

IV. Levels of Explanation

A. People are like soil. Get used to it.

1. 25%
2. 25%
3. 25%
4. Don't be surprised

B. People are like soil, try to develop them

1. Soften and moisten
2. Point out the rocks and pray
3. Confront thorns
4. Celebrate the harvest, thank God, and pray for more next year.

C. Satan's attacks.

1. Forget it!
2. Don't grow
3. Distractions
4. Only after ...

D. We can choose what kind of soil to be.

1. Ask God to plow
2. Remove rocks.
3. Don't plant weeds!
4. Fertilize
5. "Bear much fruit."

Closing Prayer: # 68, *After Worship*, BCP 834

Preparation for Next Week: Read Luke 12-24