



## Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

*“Good Seed, Bad Soil”*

### **Points from Sunday’s Message**

1. A disciple wants more from Jesus than just a good story.
2. Jesus reveals His secrets to His disciples.
3. Jesus’ stories are meant to strike you as strange.
4. Good evangelism isn’t only about the sower, the seed, and the harvest. It is also about the soil.

### **Key Verse:**

*“But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”*

— Luke 8:15

### **Discussion Questions:**

#### **1. Which soil feels most spiritually relevant to you right now?**

**Questions:** Jesus describes four different responses to the Word: the hardened path, rocky ground, thorny soil, and good soil.

Where do you honestly see yourself in this season — and why?

**Further Reading:** Psalm 139:23–24

#### **2. Pastor Miles said a disciple wants more than just a good story — they want understanding.**

**Questions:** The disciples came to Jesus and asked, “What does this parable mean?”

What does it look like in your life to move from being part of the crowd to being a true learner or apprentice of Jesus?

**Further Reading:** Psalm 119:18, James 1:5

### 3. What are some “birds” that try to snatch away the Word before it takes root?

**Questions:** Jesus says the enemy comes to take the Word from hearts before belief and salvation can grow.

What distractions, doubts, or spiritual opposition have you noticed that can keep God’s Word from settling deeply?

**Practical Application:** What is one way you can protect space this week for God’s Word to remain in you?

**Further Reading:** 2 Corinthians 4:3–4, Ephesians 6:10–18

### 4. What does “rocky soil” Christianity look like today?

**Questions:** Pastor Miles highlighted that some receive the Word with joy, but when trials or temptation come, they fall away because there is no root.

What helps faith develop roots deep enough to endure hardship?

**Further Reading:** Colossians 2:6–7, James 1:2–4

### 5. What thorns tend to choke spiritual fruitfulness in our lives?

**Questions:** Jesus names “cares, riches, and pleasures of life.”

Which of these feels most dangerous for believers in our culture right now?

How can we recognize when good things are becoming spiritual thorns?

**Practical Application:** Is there one “thorn” you need to pull this season in order to grow?

**Further Reading:** Matthew 6:19–34, 1 Timothy 6:9–10

### 6. How can we participate in evangelism even if we’re not the “sower on the stage”?

**Question:** Pastor Miles emphasized that evangelism is not only preaching and harvesting — it’s also watering, tending, praying, and preparing soil patiently.

Who has God placed in your life where your role right now may simply be to:

***pray, invite, encourage, serve, water the seed over time?***

**Further Reading:** 1 Corinthians 3:6–9, Galatians 6:9

**Closing Group Reflection:**

As a group, consider ending by praying Psalm 119:33–37 together — asking God to make your hearts good soil, and to help Cross Connection be faithful farmers in North County.

*Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.*