

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY?
Part 1 – How To Hear God Speak To You
Matthew 13:3-23
April 12, 2015
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Matthew 13:18-23 *"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²² The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the one who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."* (NIV)

Matthew 13:9 *"When Jesus said this parable, he called out, 'He who has ears let him hear!'"*

I. DECIDE TO LIVE WITH AN OPEN HEART TO GOD.

A. Matthew 13:18-19 *"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path."*

B. The hardened path represented a closed heart.

C. How does God soften hard soil? He sends the rain. Rain comes from storms.

D. James 1:21 *"So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the Word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls."* (NLT)

II. TAKE TIME TO LISTEN AND THEN FOLLOW THROUGH.

A. *Matthew 13:20-21* “The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away.”

B. The shallow soil is the emotional, superficial mind.

C. How do you get roots from God’s Word? Read the Bible every day. What happens is the Bible keeps reinforcing in you what God is wanting to grow in you.

D. *James 1:22* “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!”

E. *1 Timothy 4:7* “...Train yourself to be godly.” (NIV)

III. ELIMINATE THE DISTRACTIONS AND MAKE TIME FOR GOD.

Matthew 13:22 “The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful.”

IV. COOPERATE WITH WHAT HE SAYS FOR YOU TO DO.

A. *Matthew 13:23* “But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

B. When you begin hearing God again, He begins changing your life.