

A Noble and Good Heart

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Scripture

While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

"This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. -- Luke 8:4-8, 11-15

Message Takeaways

- God has invested too much in you for you to be anything less than you were created to be.
- Most people can tell you what they want to have, but they cannot tell you who they want to be.
- People with a changeless core on the inside can endure almost any change on the outside.
- God has given you the seeds you need to grow a life that will amaze you.
- Stop watering the seeds that were never meant to grow.

Questions for Reflection

1. What does this story tell us about God?
2. What does this story tell us about ourselves?
3. How would you describe a good and noble heart?
4. What do you want to take home from this message?



Group Life @ Middletown

If you are interested in taking part in a sermon-based discussion group or other small group, visit middletownchristian.org or contact Tracy Spann, tspann@middletownchristian.org to learn more.

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