
HARVEST

Harvest Week # 2: The Receptivity of the Soils



There is an abundant harvest that God is seeking to cultivate. It happens slowly, silently, steadily, all at God's direction in God's good timing. Too often we think that the parable of the harvest is about the soils. But it's really all about the Sower and the Seed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think of a time in your life when someone tried to convince you to think, act, or live differently and you didn't follow their advice or want to make the change. Provided the call to change was for good and not evil, why were you resistant to the change?
2. On Sunday, Brian shared the Parable of the Sower from the perspective of the soils. The soils are much about the journey of the Christian life - from hardened to God, to receptive to God and God's work in our lives. **Read Hebrews 12:1-17.**

The passage from Hebrews concerns the importance of discipline in our lives. When you hear this word "discipline," does it evoke positive or negative thoughts? What does the writer say about discipline in the passage, and is it positive or negative that we experience discipline?

3. **Re-read Hebrews 12:1-2.** What are we called to throw off so we can run the race?
Re-read Hebrews 12:3-7. What is needed to throw off sin?
Re-Read Hebrews 12:8-11. What is the positive outcome of discipline?
4. What disciplines are at work in your life to cultivate the soils of your heart so as to make your heart more receptive to receive the Seed that the Sower keeps sowing into your life? What areas of your life might need more discipline? What progress are you making toward the goal you set last week - have you cultivated new disciplines to help you in this regard? Discuss.
5. *Reconvene the group. Then re-read Hebrews 12:12-17.* While the Sower and the Seed possess the power of the gospel, do you agree or disagree that participation is required upon our part? Discuss.

BE THE REVOLUTION

For the soils of one's heart to be receptive to the Sower's Seed, discipline is necessary.

RENOVATING THE HEART

It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons and daughters. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? (Hebrews 12:7).