

## **Mark's Gospel—Jesus' True Identity Reveals the Magnitude of His Sacrifice**

10:30 Morning Worship Service:

Mark 4:1-20

### **The Parable of the Sower**

*The Word of God Will Bear Much Fruit!*

**1. Jesus Describes Four Types of Hearts (1-8).**

**Interlude: Jesus Teaching in Parables (9-18).**

**2. God's Word Will Accomplish His Purposes (14-20).**

**3. There Will Be a Great Harvest to the Glory of God (20).**

Conclusion: In the first major teaching section of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus shares a parable that emphasizes both the broad dispersion of His Word and its narrow reception. Nonetheless God will multiply the harvest greatly and bring about an amazing return. Let us trust Christ to grow His Church in all seasons and settings, being willing to ask Him questions in prayer and attentive in spreading His Word.

## Romans 8:35-39

<sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## Isaiah 55:10-11

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so shall **my word** be that goes out from my mouth;

**it shall not return to me empty,**

*but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,*

*and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

## Luke 13:6-9

<sup>6</sup> And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and *he came seeking fruit on it and found none.* <sup>7</sup> And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup> And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, *until I dig around it and put on manure.* <sup>9</sup> Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

## Isaiah 6:8-13

<sup>8</sup> And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.” <sup>9</sup> And he said, “*Go, and say to this people:*

“Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.” <sup>10</sup> Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”

<sup>11</sup> Then I said, “How long, O Lord?”

And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is a desolate waste, <sup>12</sup> and the LORD removes people far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

<sup>13</sup> And though a tenth remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak, whose stump remains when it is felled.”

The holy seed is its stump.