

← Back

Today Service: Worship Set and Sermon Notes



Worship Set

[Washed](#)

[I've Witnessed It](#)

[King Of My Heart](#)

[Jesus Be The Name](#)

[Give Me Jesus](#)

Now Showing: The Parables of Jesus, Stories that Change Everything

Paarable of the Soils Matthew 13:1–23

Today we start our Summer Series, "Now Showing — The Parables of Jesus, Stories that Change Everything." Every week we pair a parable with a film — not because the movie is the message, but because great stories reach us at the heart before they reach us intellectually, just like Jesus' stories did. Jesus wasn't primarily a lecturer. He told stories — Matthew tells us he never taught the crowds without one — because it was his signature way of revealing the Kingdom.

We start with the sower, paired with *Inside Out 2*, where a teenager's inner world gets hijacked by Anxiety fighting for control. It's not so different

from us. How many of us have prayed, *God, change me*, and gone right back to the same patterns that made us pray it? We want the fruit of a changed life while we keep managing the soil ourselves. Two thousand years ago Jesus sat in a boat and told a story about a farmer scattering seed on four kinds of ground — then left it hanging: which one are you? Today we look at two things: the power of the seed, and the posture of the heart.

1. The Power of the Seed (Matthew 13:3–9, 18–19) The sower in Jesus' story is generous, not reckless — he scatters seed freely across the whole field, path and rocks and thorns and good ground alike. The seed is "the word of the Kingdom" — not information about God but the living, active announcement that his reign has broken in. What takes root in us never stays neutral — it shapes what we notice, fear, and desire. Isaiah promises God's word never returns empty; it always produces what it was sent to produce. The seed isn't the variable. What happens when it lands is.

2. The Posture of the Heart (Matthew 13:19–23) Every heart in the story receives the same seed — the difference is the soil it lands on. The hard path is a closed heart, too compacted to let the word in. The rocky ground is a shallow heart — real joy at first, no roots to hold when pressure comes. The thorny ground is a divided heart, quietly crowded out by worry and the pull toward more. And the good soil is an open, surrendered heart that lets the word go all the way in and multiplies thirty, sixty, a hundredfold. The question isn't a permanent label — it's which direction your heart is moving.

This Week: The word of the Kingdom isn't one voice competing for space in your soil — it's the only voice that actually gives life to what it touches. God has not given up on your soil, whatever it looks like right now: closed, shallow, crowded, or finally ready. The seed already landed; the only question is what you'll let it become. Gather with family, friends, or small group this week to watch *Inside Out 2*, read Matthew 13:1–23, and talk through it together — which soil best describes your heart right now, and what's one thorn crowding out God's Word?

Then choose one practice that creates space for the word to grow — silence, reading one verse slowly, stepping away from a screen — and give God that space daily, asking him to grow what he's already planted. What grows in us depends on the condition of our hearts. And he's the one who can change the condition we cannot change ourselves.

