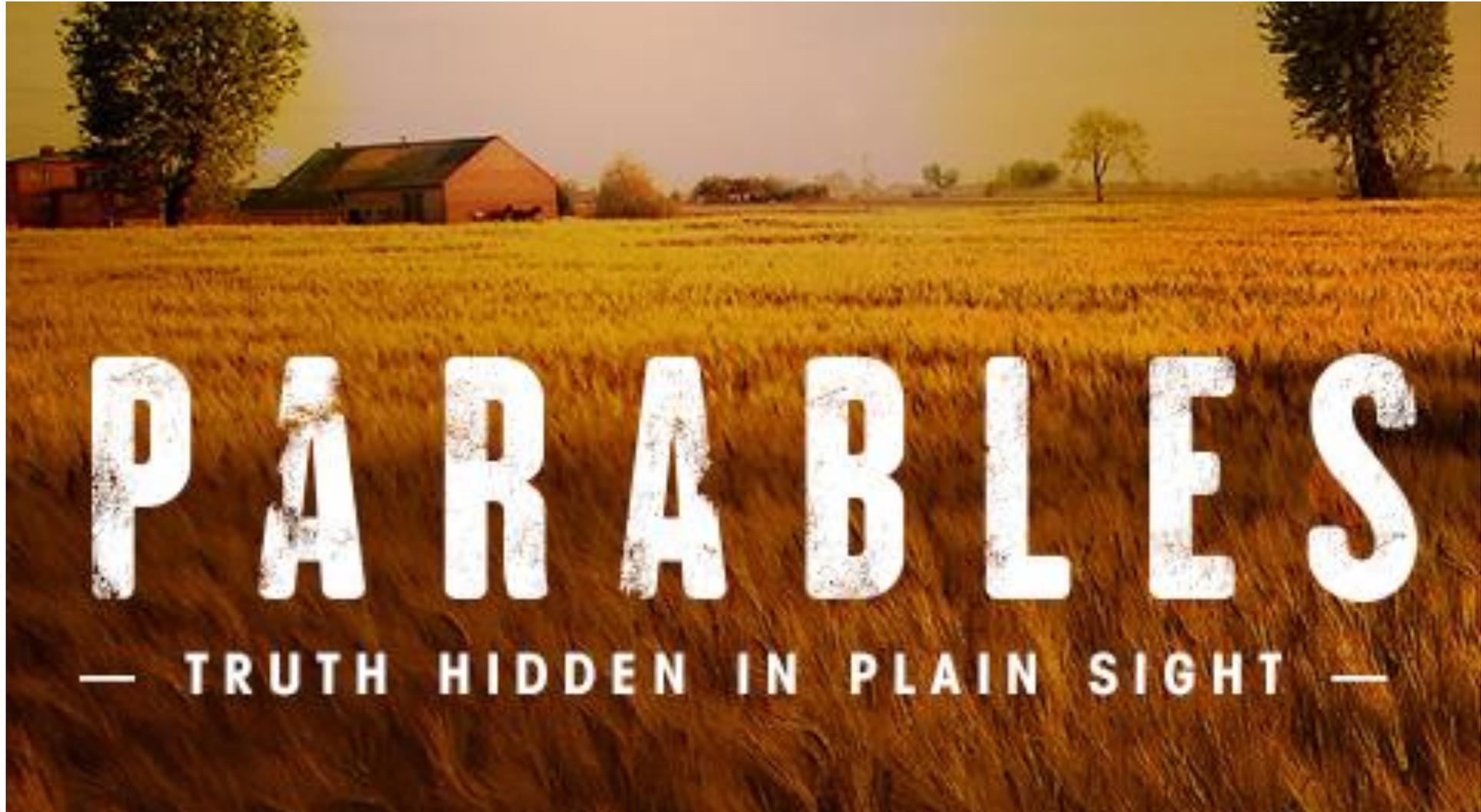


The Parables of Jesus

Matthew 13:1-23; Luke ch. 15; 18:9-14



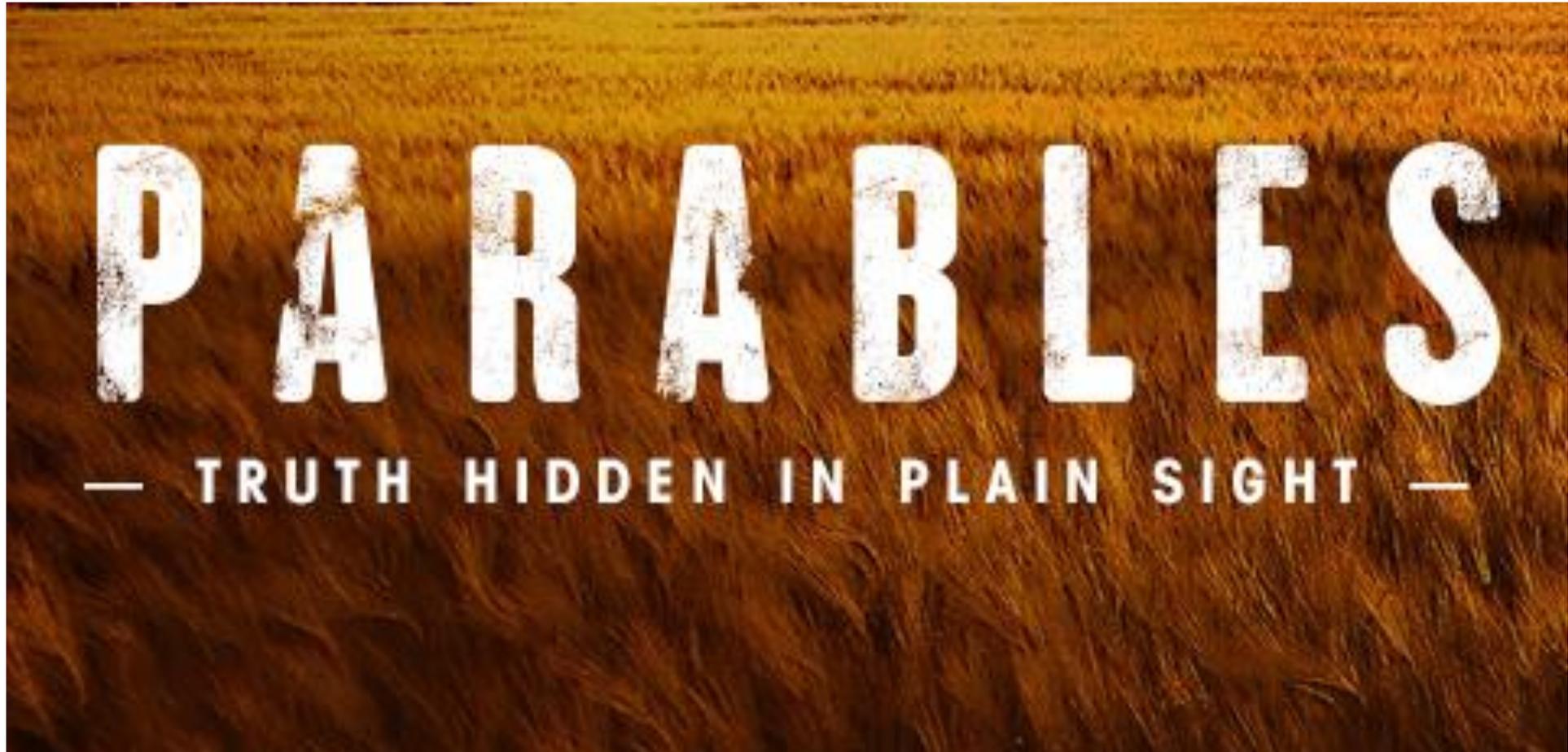
Prayer





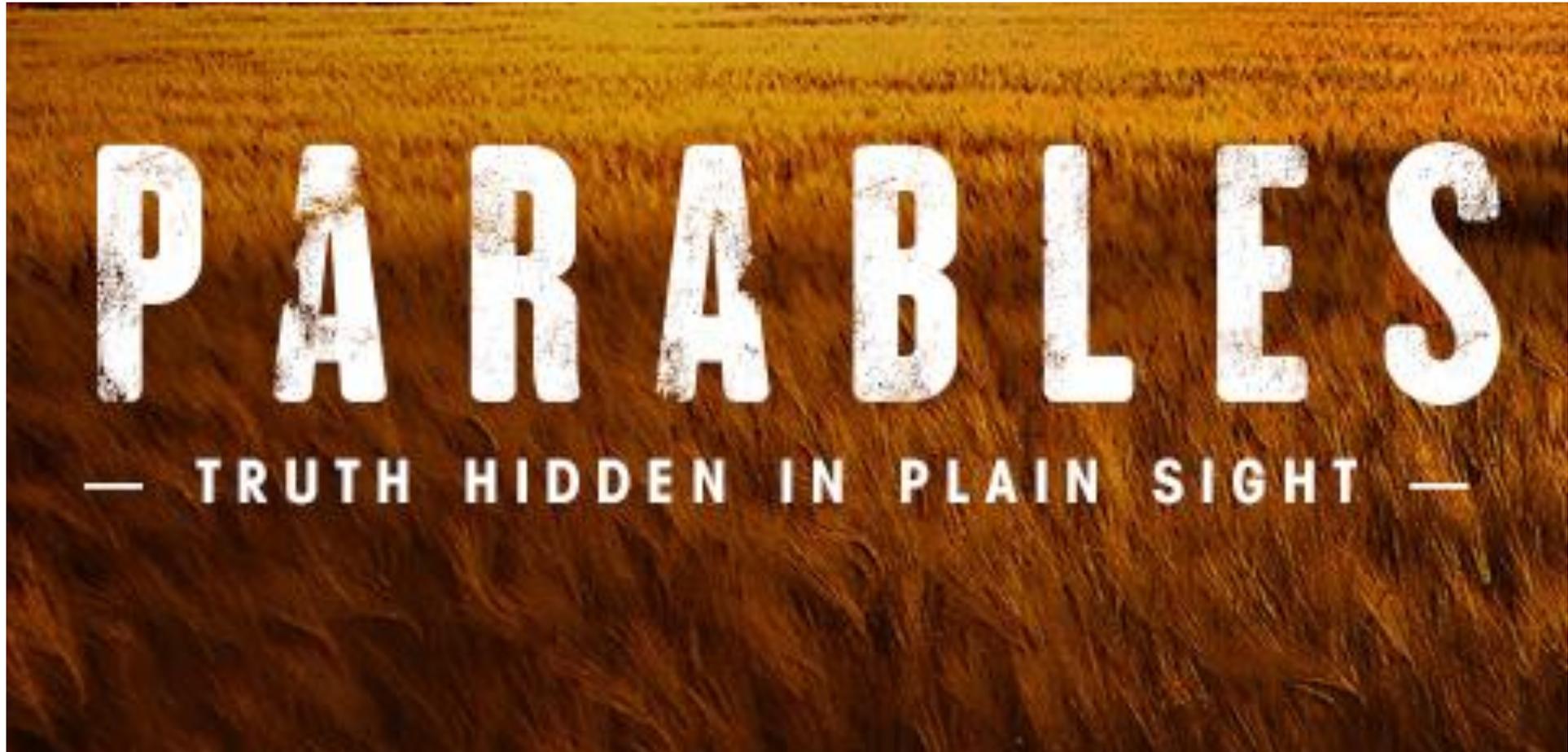
1.) What is a parable?

- A parable is a story that takes something _____ and compares it to something that is _____.

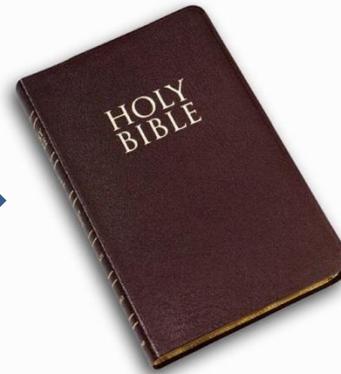


1.) What is a parable?

- A parable is a story that takes something KNOWN and compares it to something that is UNKNOWN.



For example...



Read: Matthew 13:11-17

*1.) What is the purpose of parables?

a.) v. 11 – To _____ spiritual truths to
believers

Read: Matthew 13:11-17

*1.) What is the purpose of parables?

a.) v. 11 – To REVEAL spiritual truths to believers

Read: Matthew 13:11-17

*1.) What is the purpose of parables?

a.) v. 11 – To REVEAL spiritual truths to believers

b.) v. 13-15 – To _____ spiritual truths from unbelievers

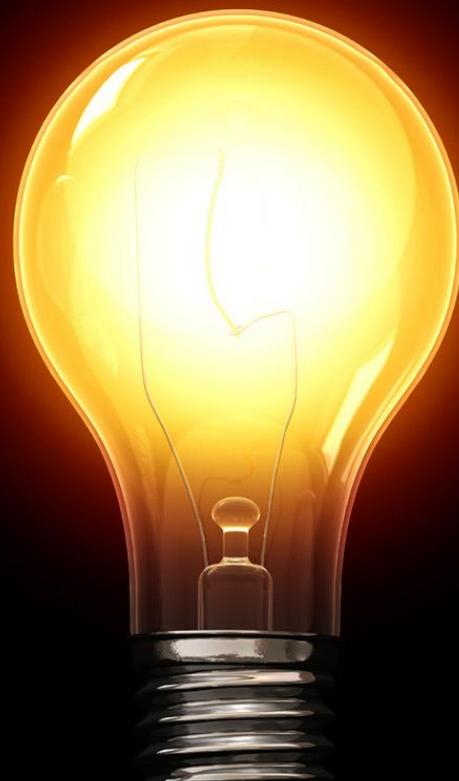
Read: Matthew 13:11-17

*1.) What is the purpose of parables?

a.) v. 11 – To REVEAL spiritual truths to believers

b.) v. 13-15 – To HIDE spiritual truths from unbelievers





Read: Matthew 13:1-10

A close-up photograph of a hand sowing seeds into a field of golden wheat. The hand is positioned at the top, and a stream of small, dark seeds is falling from it into the field below. The background is a soft, out-of-focus field of wheat under a bright sky.

*Parable
of the
Sower*

1 Constant in the Story

- The farmer sows/scatters the seed



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Path



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Result: Birds ate it up



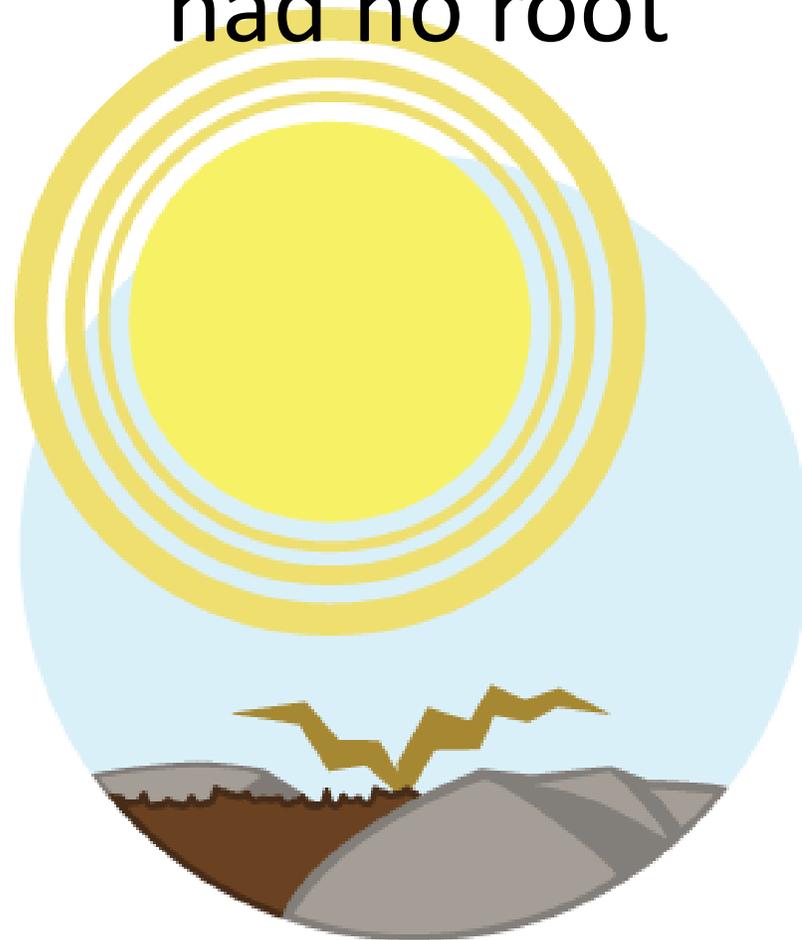
4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Rocky Soil



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Result: Grew up quickly, but scorched because it had no root



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Weeds



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Result: Thorns grew up and choked the plant



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Good Soil



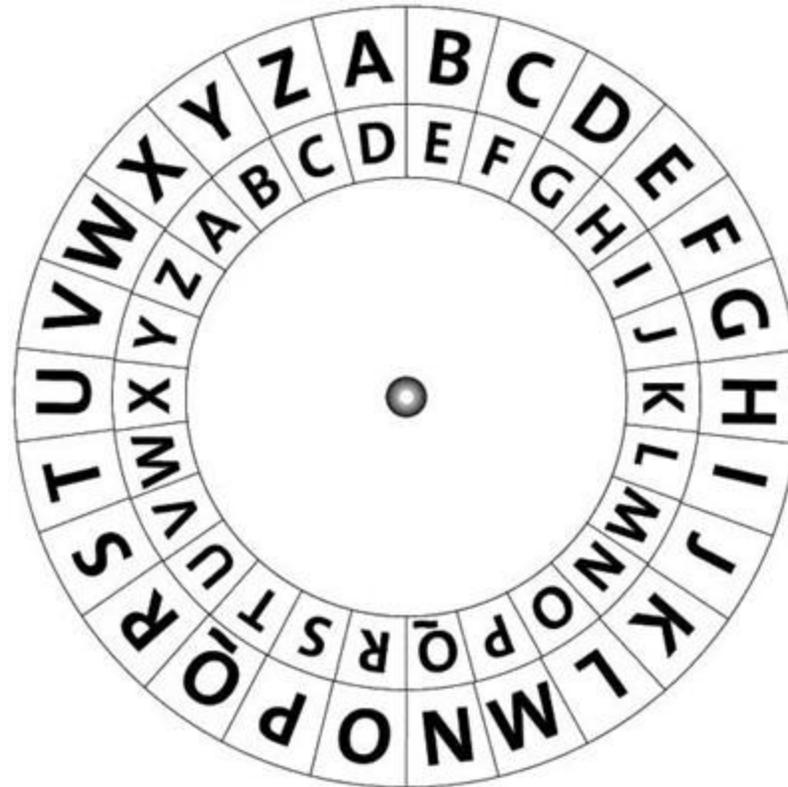
4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- Result: Grew and produced an abundant crop



4 Types of Soil & 4 Results

- In some instances Jesus does all the work for us and tells us exactly what the parable means.



Read: Matthew 13:18-23



1 Constant in the Story

- The seed = the message about the kingdom

Word of God



4 Types of Heart & 4 Results



- **Reject the Word**

4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

- Result: Devil snatches it away



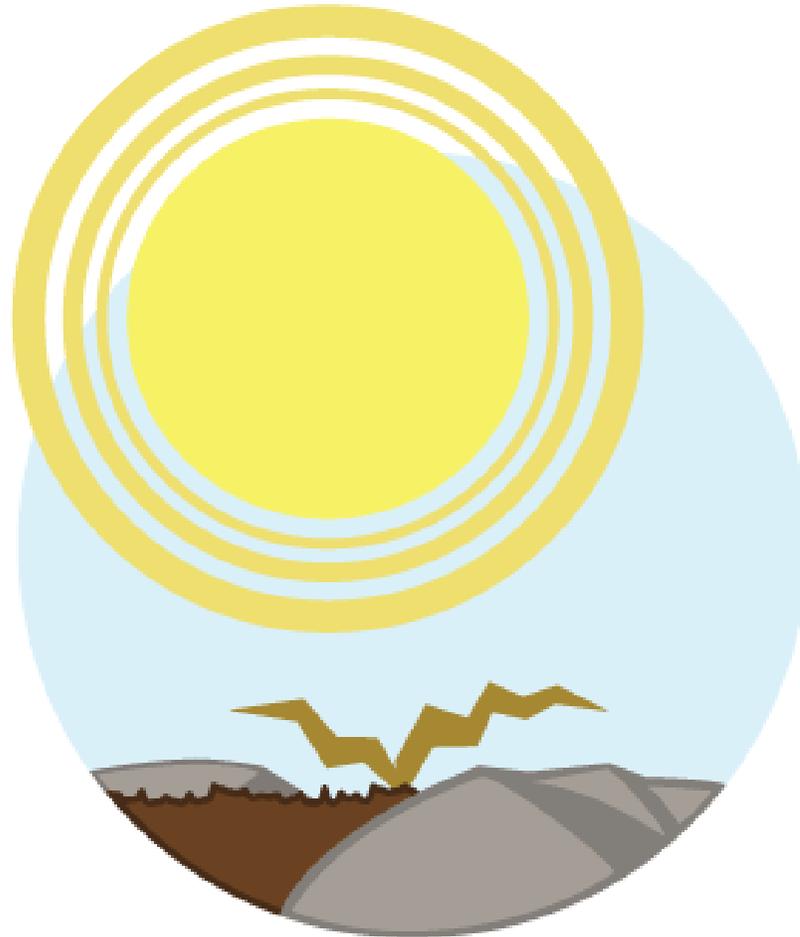
4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

- Initially rejoices over Word



4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

- Result: Quickly fall away under persecution



4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

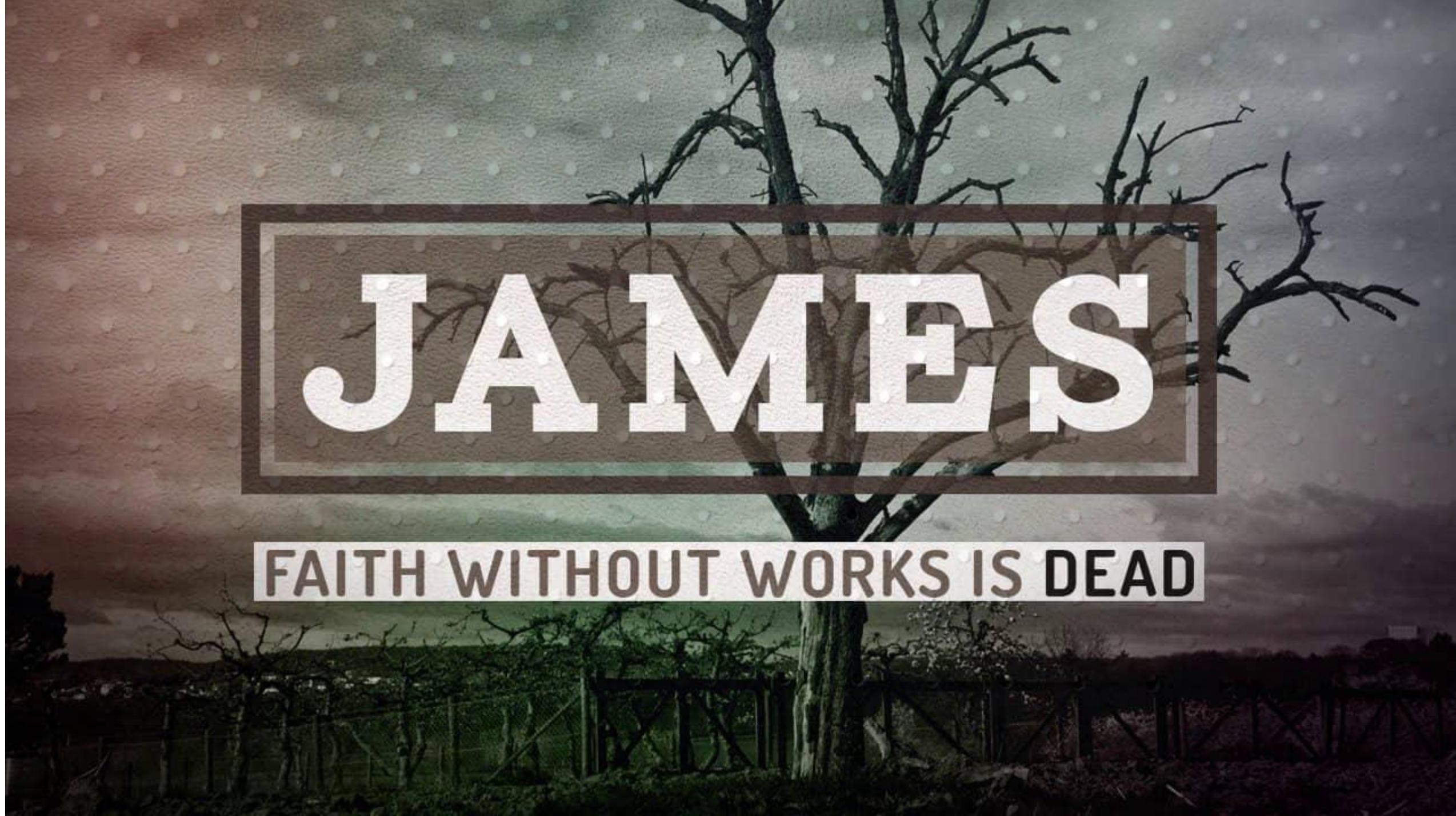
- Believes the Word, but also listens to the worries of life and lies of wealth



4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

- Result: Their faith is unfruitful / useless

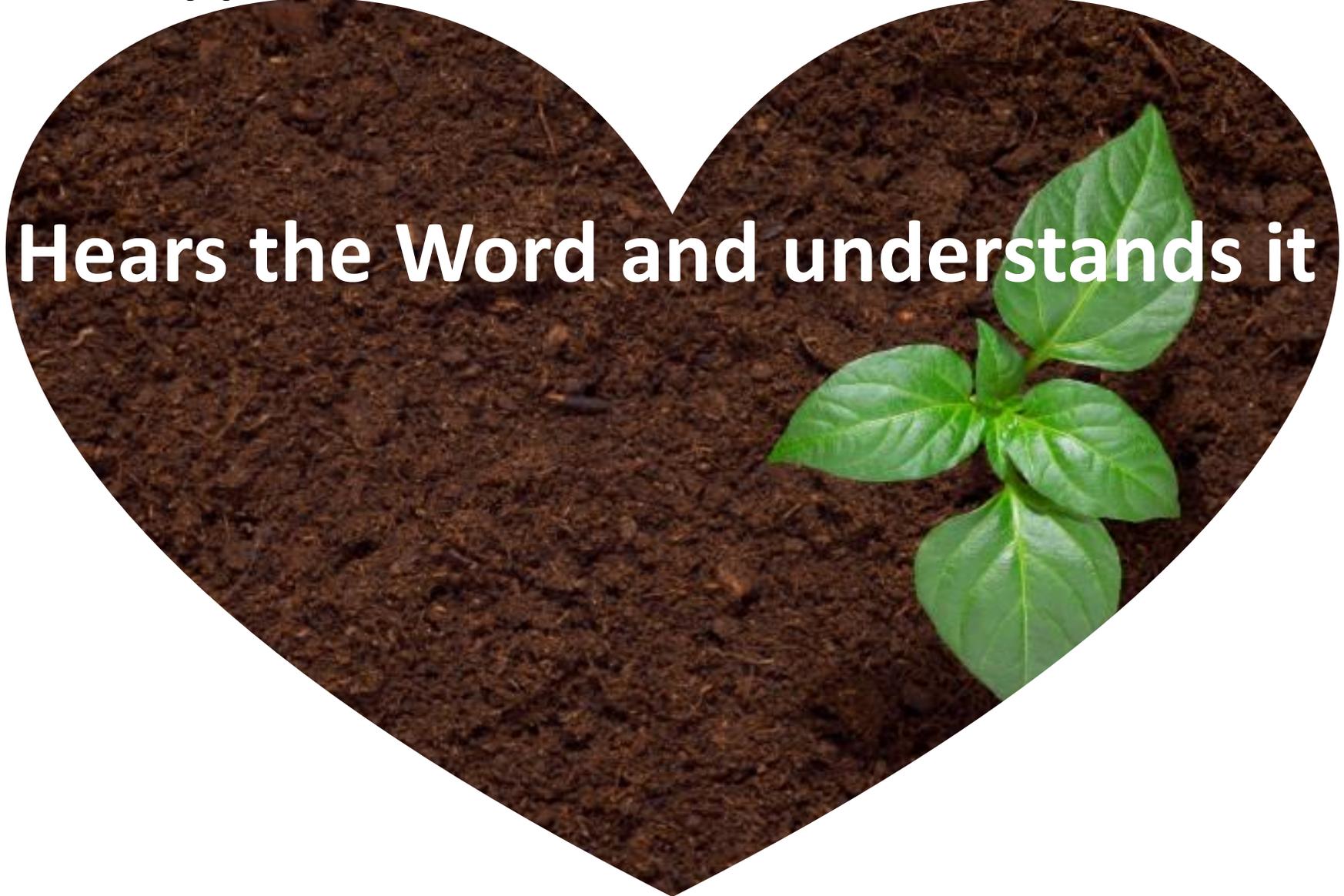




JAMES

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

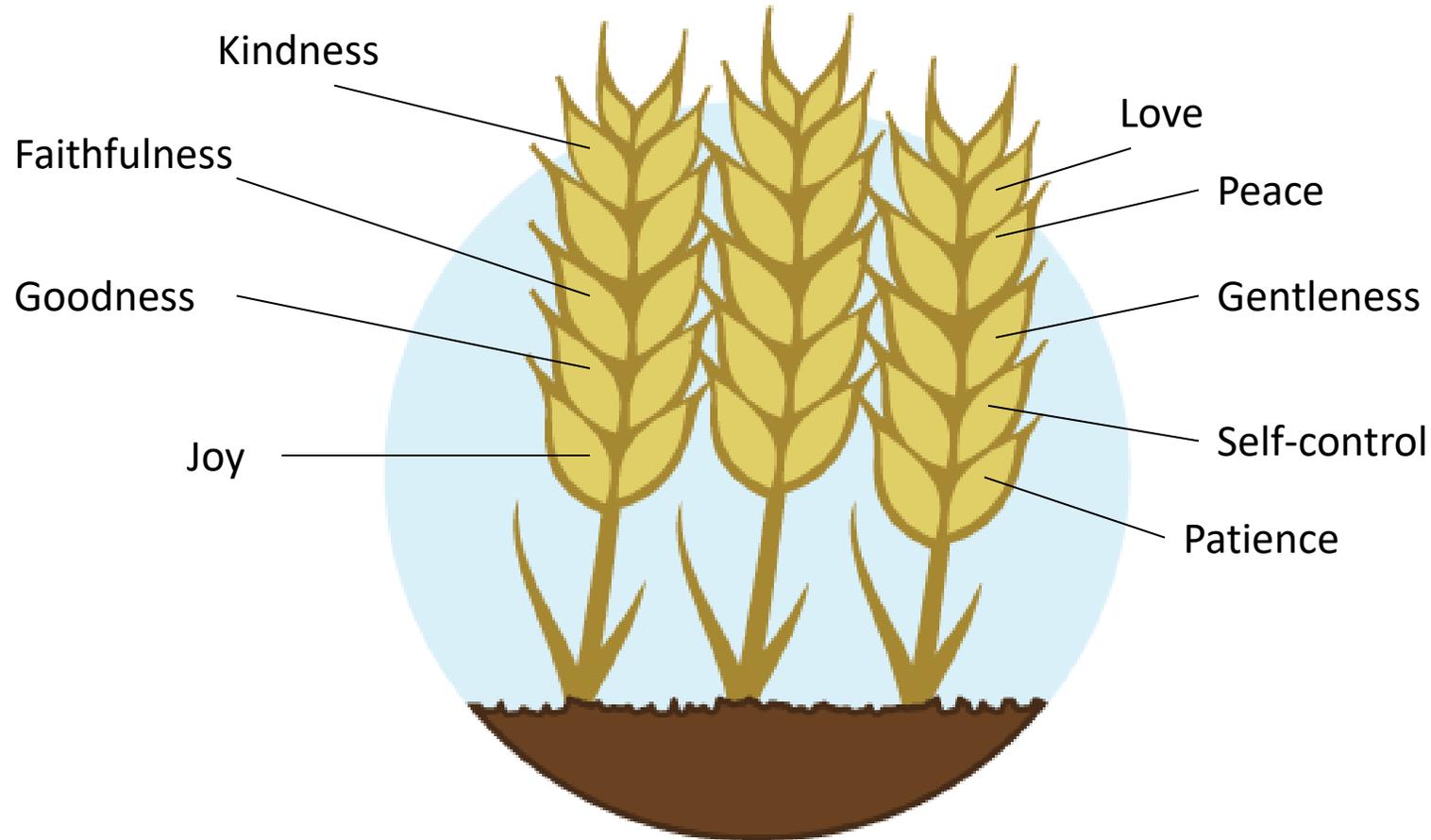
4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results



Hears the Word and understands it

4 Types of Hearts & 4 Results

- Result: Produces a life full of good works





PARABLE *of the* SOWER

*1.) Lessons learned from this parable?

a.) The _____ works _____ in hearts



*1.) Lessons learned from this parable?

a.) The WORD works FAITH in hearts



PARABLE *of the* SOWER

*1.) Lessons learned from this parable?

a.) The WORD works FAITH in hearts

b.) Hearts receive the Word _____



PARABLE *of the* SOWER

- *1.) Lessons learned from this parable?
 - a.) The WORD works FAITH in hearts
 - b.) Hearts receive the Word **DIFFERENTLY**



PARABLE *of the* SOWER

- *1.) Lessons learned from this parable?
 - a.) The WORD works FAITH in hearts
 - b.) Hearts receive the Word DIFFERENTLY
 - c.) God's goal is for faith to produce _____



PARABLE *of the* SOWER

- *1.) Lessons learned from this parable?
 - a.) The WORD works FAITH in hearts
 - b.) Hearts receive the Word DIFFERENTLY
 - c.) God's goal is for faith to produce **GOOD WORKS**

Read: Luke 15:1-2

- Context is the key to understanding this section of parables...



...the Pharisees could not fathom that God would welcome such “sinners” into his kingdom.



Read: Luke 15:3-7



Read: Luke 15:8-10



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) ___ thing valuable is ___



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) ONE thing valuable is LOST

b.) A careful _____ is made until it is _____



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) ONE thing valuable is LOST

b.) A careful _____ is made until it is _____



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) ONE thing valuable is LOST

b.) A careful SEARCH is made until it is FOUND



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) ONE thing valuable is LOST

b.) A careful SEARCH is made until it is FOUND

c.) There is ___ in finding the lost



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) **ONE** thing valuable is **LOST**

b.) A careful **SEARCH** is made until it is **FOUND**

c.) There is **JOY** in finding the lost



1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) **ONE** thing valuable is **LOST**

b.) A careful **SEARCH** is made until it is **FOUND**

c.) There is **JOY** in finding the lost

POINT OF COMPARISON (v. 7, 10):

*d.) In the same way there is joy in heaven among God and the angels over _____ sinner who _____!

1.) What similarities do you see between these two Parables?

a.) **ONE** thing valuable is **LOST**

b.) A careful **SEARCH** is made until it is **FOUND**

c.) There is **JOY** in finding the lost

POINT OF COMPARISON (v. 7, 10):

*d.) In the same way there is joy in heaven among God and the angels over **ONE/EVERY** sinner who **REPENTS!**

Luke 15:11-32









































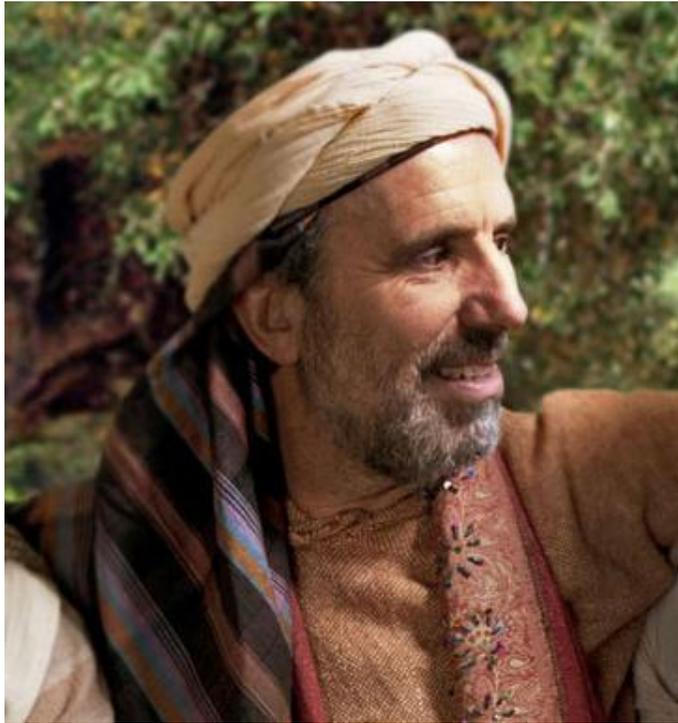




Let's interpret Jesus' parable...



1.) Who is the father?



God (the Father)

2.) Who is the younger brother?



The tax collectors and (obvious)
“sinners”

3.) Who is the older brother?



The Pharisees and religious leaders

4.) What change took place in the pig pen?

The younger son realized his sin and remembered the love of his father.



5.) How did the father react to his son's return?



5.) How did the father react to his son's return?



5.) How did the father react to his son's return?

He was filled with joy and RAN to reassure his son of his love by hugging and kissing him



5.) How did the father react to his son's return?

He took his son back like NOTHING HAD HAPPEND



*6.) How does God treat us the same way?

He instantly forgives our sins in Jesus and reassures us that we are his beloved children



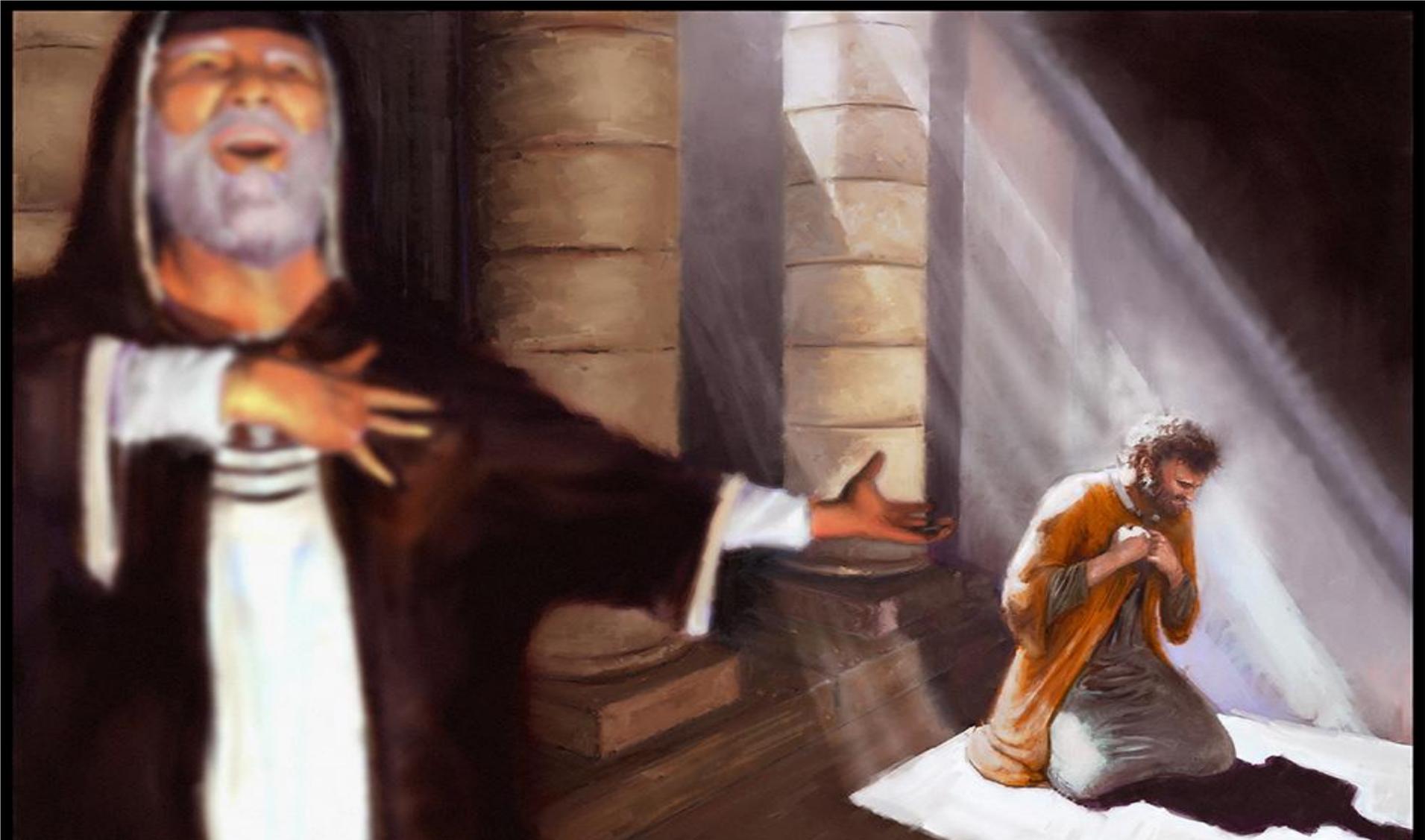
7.) Lessons for the older son...



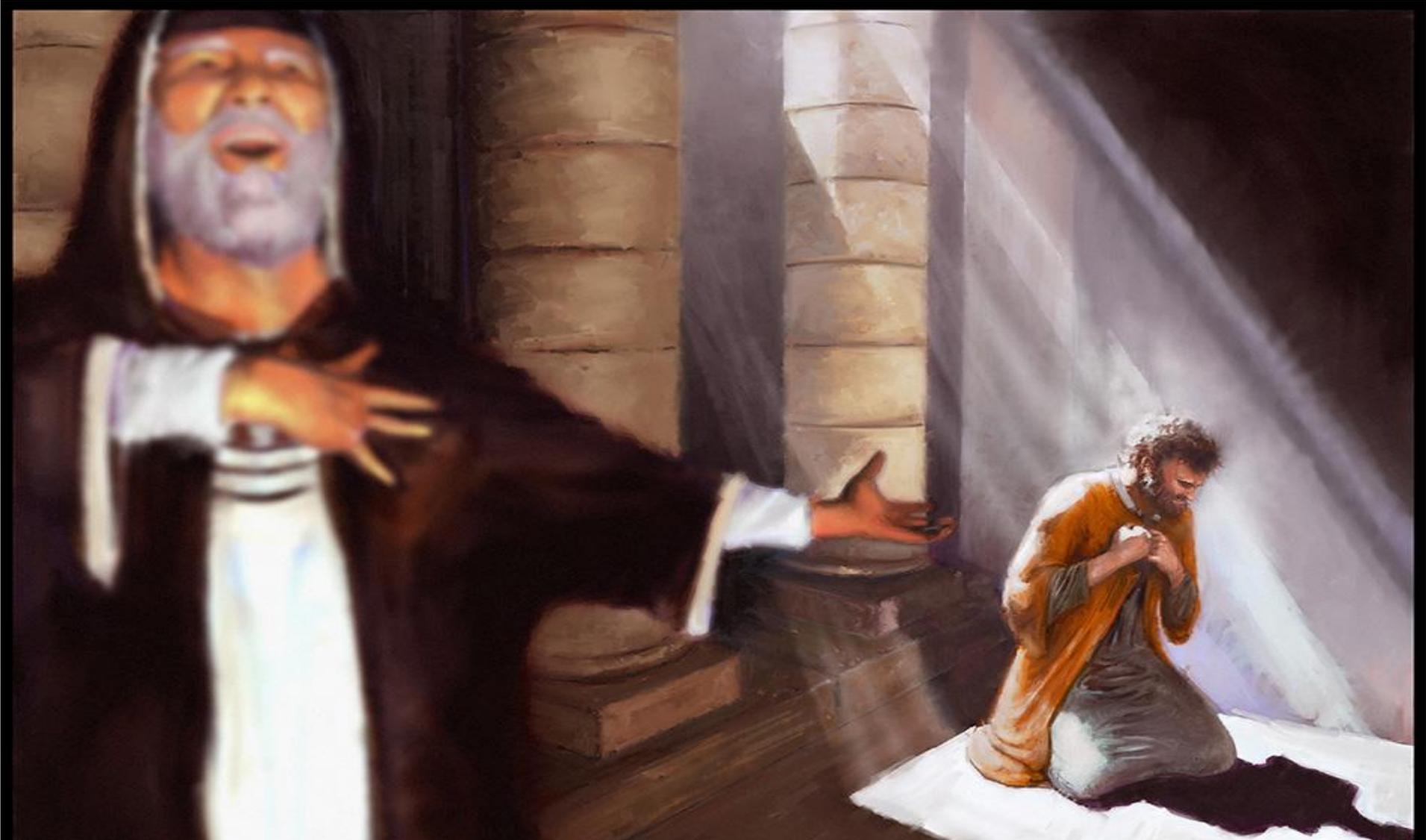
Read: Luke 18:9-14



*1.) What's the point of this parable? (v. 14)



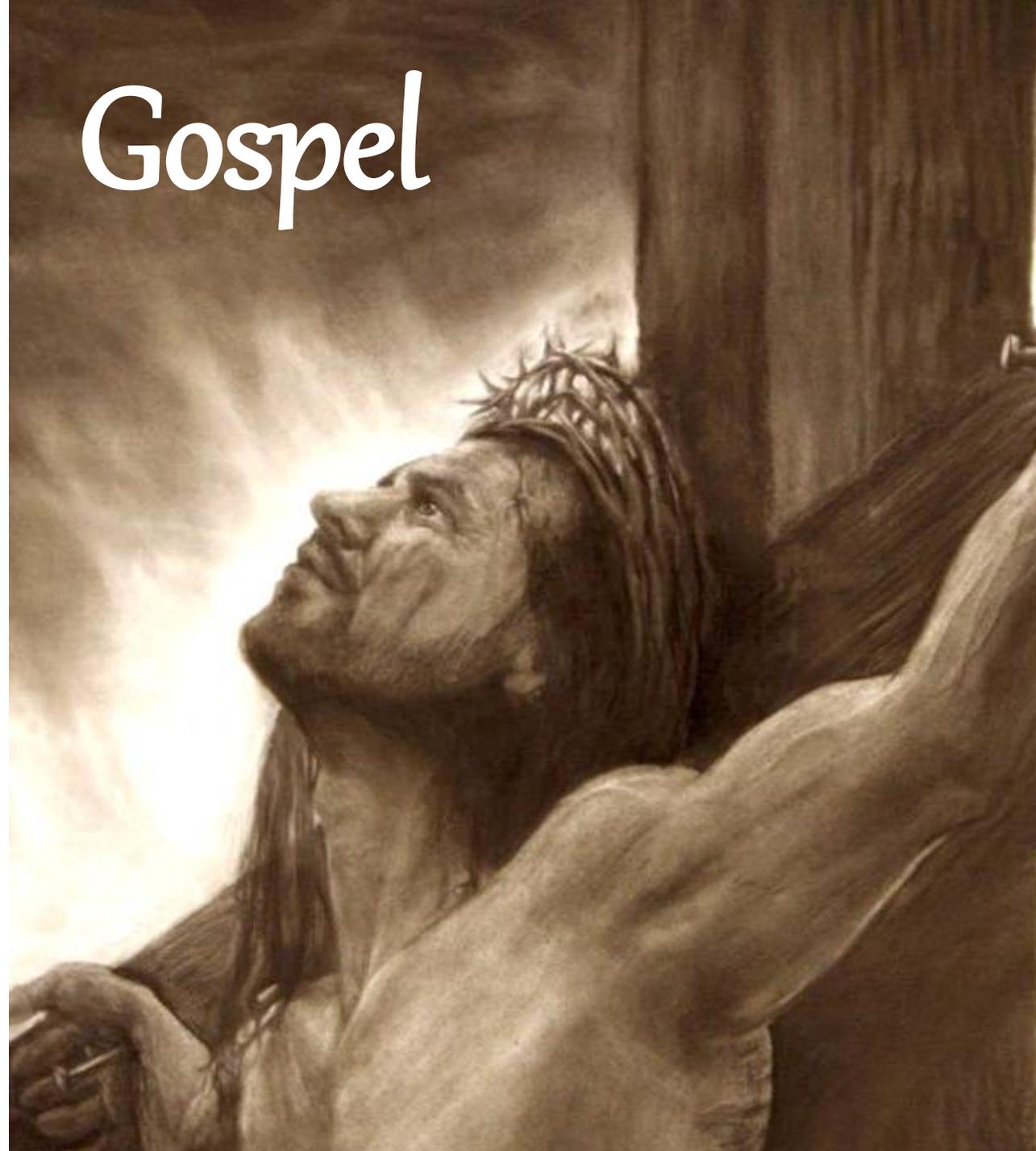
- God forgives those who humbly acknowledge their sins to him.



LAW



Gospel



LAW

- God's commands, threats, punishments...
 - Beware of rejecting God's Word, the worries of life, the lies of wealth
 - God wants faith to produce good works
 - We are to love the lost and rejoice when anyone repents of their sin
 - We should not see ourselves as holier than anyone else
 - We are to acknowledge our sins to God

Gospel

- God's mercy, forgiveness, goodness, and promises...
 - God's Word creates faith in our hearts and good works in our lives
 - God loves us and searches for us when we are lost in our sins
 - God REJOICES when we repent and FORGIVES our sins

For Next Time...

- Read: Matt. 26:14-30; 1 Cor. 11:23-29; 10:15-17;
Matt. 26:31-27:5 (Maundy Thursday)
- Complete reflection guide
- Memory Work:
–*Matthew 26:26-28*

