

**PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

Matthew 13:1-23

This discussion is for the Friday Morning Men’s Fellowship teaching series, “The Parables”, available at leadmin.org/parables.



Use one of these to get the group talking about today’s topic:

• Have you ever tried to grow anything on a farm, or even a backyard garden? What did you grow and how did it go?

* What is something you invested in early in life that paid off years later? Was it a financial investment, a relationship, a hobby, a skill or talent?
* Have you ever tried to influence someone toward a specific decision or outcome? Your wife, a coworker, a friend? What were you trying to accomplish and how did you do it?



Go in-depth with these questions. Based on your available time, choose 3-4 that you believe are most thought-provoking:

• Read Matthew 13:1-9. What is Jesus talking about in the parable of the sower?

* Read Matthew 13:10-17. Why did Jesus speak using parables? Was it to make His teaching easier to understand?
* Are there teachings of Jesus that you have heard that are confusing to you or hard to understand? Give an example.
* Read Matthew 13:18-23. Did Jesus explanation of the parable of the sower match what you thought it meant?
* Jesus told this parable so that only His disciples would know what He meant by it? Why is that important?
* What are some practical ways you might “sow seeds of faith” today through your life and leadership?



• In your sphere of influence, what kind of “ground” are you “sewing seeds of faith” into? What is one thing you can do this week to effectively share your faith with those around you?

* Jesus told parables sometimes to hide the meaning of His teaching from everyone except for His disciples. Is this still true today? Do people who aren’t Christians have a hard time understanding Jesus’ teachings? What is our role to be with these people?