

WHAT KIND OF HEARER ARE YOU?

DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL, PART 6

Pastor Ken Ritz * Jan 22, 2012 * New Life Vineyard Church

Luke 8:18

'He who has ears to hear, let him hear.'

In the parable of the sower:

- the **farmer** represents God,
- the **seed** is what He wants to say to me,
- and the **soil** represents my mind.

Four Types Of "Hearers"

1. The _____ Hearer

A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

Matthew 13:3

Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When people hear the message about the kingdom and do not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their hearts. This is the seed sown along the path.

Matthew 13:18-19

2. The _____ Hearer

Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

Matthew 13:5-6

The seed falling on rocky ground refers to people who hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

Matthew 13:20-21

Soul: mind, will, and emotions.

The test of a true follower of Christ...

what happens when _____ comes?

3. The _____ Hearer

Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.

Matthew 13:7

The seed falling among the thorns refers to people who hear the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

Matthew 13:22

In their pride the wicked do not seek him; in all their thoughts there is no room for God.

Psalm 10:4

4. The _____ Hearer

Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Matthew 13:8

But the seed falling on good soil refers to people who hear the word and understand it. They produce a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Matthew 13:23

How does God soften a hard heart? Through _____.