



Don't Judge the Soil Before You
Plant the Seed

Reasons we don't spread the Gospel

- ☐ Fear of Rejection
- ☐ Not comfortable
- ☐ Not educated
- ☐ Not conscious of the opportunities
- ☐ “They won't listen”



Parable of the Sower

- Matt 13:1-9 - ESV
- “That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: ‘A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear.’”

Parable of the Sower

- Matt 13:18-23 - ESV
- 18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.””

1. We don't get to be selective with who receives the Gospel

- Who are we to point the finger

- Romans 3:9

- “What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin”

- Romans 3:23-26

- “For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

2. We can't see the full picture

- ☐ Saul

- ☐ Acts 8:1-3

- ☐ Paul

- ☐ Acts 9:15-18

- ☐ “But the Lord said to him, ‘Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.’ 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;”

- ☐ Acts 9:26-28

2. We can't see the full picture

- Paul
- George Lyttleton & Gilbert West
 - Lyttleton would go on to try and disprove Paul by showing the possible motives for him playing into a lie. He said Paul was either, in it for wealth, the gain fame from men, to become powerful, passion, or he lied about his conversion story
 - Lyttleton concludes that unless we're going to set aside the normal rules of evidence by which facts are determined, we should accept the whole story of Paul's conversion as historically true. Therefore, the Christian faith is proved to be a revelation from God.

3. The Gospel is for Everyone

We have to set aside our differences

□ Matthew 8:9-12

□ “As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he rose and followed him. 10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?’ 12 But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.”

3. The Gospel is for Everyone

- Jesus' first apostles were fishermen, uneducated, how are they at all worth to follow Jesus
- Matthew 4:18-21
 - “18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.’ 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.”
- Acts 4:13
 - “13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.”

3. The Gospel is for Everyone

We are all called to spread the Gospel to ALL nations

□ Matt. 28:16-20

□ “16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”

□ Mark 16:15-16

□ “15 And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. 16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.’”