

### **Discussion Questions**

[Q1] Share a time in your life that you remember being exceptionally open or closed to God's teaching and leading in your life. What was the result?

[Q2] What are some things that make growth difficult in your life and what can we do to be intentional about being "good soil?"

### **Group Prayer Requests**

# LIFEINMOTION

**Jeff Vines**  
Senior Pastor

## **Christ's Church of the Valley**

**Valley Center Campus and Offices:**

1404 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas, CA 91773  
909.592.CCV2 (2282)

**Lone Hill Campus:**

700 S. Lone Hill Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773

Sermons and notes can be downloaded at:

[www.ccvnow.com](http://www.ccvnow.com)

## sermon **NOTES**

### “What’s Your P.Q.?”

Matthew 13:18-23

Some passages, such as Matthew 13, are so compelling that one half hour sermon can never unpack all the details. Since I only have half an hour, I ask that you to write down what God says to you during this message. I will unpack as much truth as time allows but will fully depend on God to apply His truth to your life long after you leave the service today.

God Bless,

Jeff

#### **My Notes:**

## personal **STUDY**

### “The Parable of the Sower”

Matthew 13:1-23

**Background:** Earlier in the day before Jesus tells the Parable of the Sower, Jesus had several confrontations with a group called the Pharisees. These Pharisees, instead of being open to Jesus’ message, rejected Jesus and began to openly challenge his teachings. Skim through Matthew 12 and look for the following disagreements.

- Matthew 12:1-4 regarding eating on the Sabbath.
- Matthew 12:9-14 regarding healing on the Sabbath.
- Matthew 12:22-32 regarding a demon-oppressed man.
- Matthew 12:33-37 Jesus responds to their criticism.

[Q] According to Matthew 12:33-35, why was Jesus upset with the Pharisees? What does this passage say about the heart of God?

**The Parable of the Sower:** Now read the Parable of the Sower, especially Jesus’ explanation of the parable. Ironically, the focus of the parable isn’t about the sower at all, is it? The parable is about four different kinds of soils, representing different ways people respond to the teachings of Jesus. Jesus is begging the question: Which type of soil are you?

[Q] Is your heart like the soil on the path: hard like the Pharisees and unaffected by God’s word and the moving of His Spirit?

[Q] Is your heart like the rocky or thorny soil: initially open to accepting God’s word but quick to grow tired and become distracted by worldly things?

[Q] Is your heart like the good soil: anxious to hear and understand God’s word and humble enough to be transformed by it?

**Takeaway:** What is it that God is teaching you this week?