***SERMON NOTES***

**“Who is This Man?” A Study through the Gospel of Mark**

**“The Soil of the Heart”**

**Mark 4: 1-20**

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In Mark 4: 1-20, Jesus shows us what we should pray for and against in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when the gospel message of faith and repentance is shared.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were Jesus’ preferred method of teaching.

Jesus begins and ends this passage with a call to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to what He is teaching (v3; 9).

Listening to Jesus’ words with an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ heart is crucial to understanding His message of salvation.

Jesus’ parables are intended to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ truth to those who desire it and to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the truth from those who are opposed or indifferent to it (v11-12).

The heart of mankind is “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ above all things” (Jeremiah 17:9) and the intention of a person’s heart is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from their youth (Genesis 8:21).

In this parable we see the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the heart (v 14-20).

The mark of true \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is hearing the word, understanding the word, and producing spiritual fruit.

**Application**

1. Examine your heart. Which soil represents you?

If your heart is hardened to the gospel in unbelief, don’t remain there - repent and believe in who Jesus is and what He has done.

If your heart is like the rocky soil with no depth and no root, and your belief is only partial and superficial, don’t remain there- repent and believe in who Jesus is and what He has done.

If your heart is like the thorny soil, divided and more concerned with cares, worries, and wealth of this world, don’t remain there - repent and believe in who Jesus is and what He has done.

1. Let us sow the message of Christ faithfully and abundantly, even as we trust in Christ to do the work.

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| hearts | Parables | listen | open; receptive |
| reveal; conceal | deceitful; evil | soil | belief |