

For the week of August 4, 2024

Preacher: Scott Grant

Seeds of Hope

Fifth week in the series: The Parables of Jesus

Mark 4:1-20

On the surface, if you look out on our world, there is more than enough to depress you all day, every day. But we all know that appearances can be deceiving. Jesus told a story to help us understand what's really going on in our world, appearances notwithstanding. We call it the Parable of the Sower.

Discussion Questions:

1. The parable challenges us to believe the gospel, even if our world resists it, and to embrace the mission of the gospel by casting its "seeds" into our world. How does this challenge affect you, and how would you like to respond to it?
2. How do your observations regarding our world's receptivity to the gospel resonate with Mark 4:15-20?
3. Think of someone you know who has received the gospel, responded to it, and borne fruit for the kingdom. How does that person encourage you?
4. How might you stay "around" Jesus (Mark 4:10) so that you might better understand the parables and the kingdom of God?
5. How do you think the Parable of the Sower might redefine your hopes?