



Short Stories: Faith

Opening:

How do you end up picking a vacation spot?

What is the best meal you have ever had on vacation?

What is one thing you miss about being on vacation as a kid?

Short Stories: Faith | Week 5 | Matthew 18:21-35 | Mark 4:1-20

1. On Sunday, Rodger suggested three possible titles for this parable. If you were going to give it a title, what would it be?
2. Jesus came sowing the "subversive seeds" of the Kingdom of God. Can you think of any real world examples of the gospel acting in subversive ways? What was the result?
3. In the parable of the soils, Jesus gives four examples of the different types of soil. Briefly discuss the characteristics of each type.
4. Which soil do you most readily identify with? Do you always identify with the same soil, or do you identify with various soils throughout your life?
5. The first soil represents a heart that is so hardened that there seems to be no possible way for the seeds of the Kingdom to break in. What do you make of that? What does the first soil tell us about God? Is there any room for hope there?
6. Why do you think Jesus told this parable? What was his purpose? Was it the same for the crowd and for the disciples?
7. What does the parable of the indiscriminate sower teach us about the character of God?
8. Rodger reminded us that our calling is to be sowers, not soil inspectors. What does that mean to you? How does that distinction impact our daily living out and into the Kingdom?
9. What do you find most encouraging about this parable?