

STORIES: The Sower: How's Your Heart May 20, 2018

Reading Plan

Sunday-

Attend Church and take notes during the message.

Monday-

READ: **Matthew 13: 1-3**

REFLECT: Notice that the story is about a sower (someone who scatters seeds everywhere) rather than a planter (someone who makes everything just right before placing the seed)? How is this reflected by God and us as we go throughout the world spreading the gospel?

PRACTICE: Praise God for spreading the gospel to all people, everywhere. Praise God for sending the gospel to you and your family.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: Read **Matthew 13:1-23** or watch video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bXXKr6oiq8>

REFLECT: "The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become. "

PRACTICE: Ask Christ to give you a passion for sowing the gospel like His passion for sowing.

Tuesday-

READ: **Matthew 13:4 and 13:18-19**

REFLECT: What are some ways that our hearts become hardened? What can you do to soften your heart so you are better able to respond to God?

PRACTICE: Confess those areas of hardness in your heart and ask God to help you soften your heart.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: : **2 Corinthians 5:9**. Read article by Meredith Curtis:

<https://www.charismamag.com/spirit/spiritual-growth/23693-isn-t-it-time-to-de-clutter-our-hearts>

REFLECT: Identify an area that you need to deal with in the "Clutter Checklist."

PRACTICE: Repent (call sin what it is), Renounce (refuse to indulge anymore), Restitution (repair the damage)

Wednesday-

READ: **Matthew 13:5-6 and 13:20-21**

REFLECT: Are there areas in your life that are prone to wilting under pressure?

PRACTICE: What do you need to do to be deeper rooted in Jesus? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal how your roots can go deep.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **John 6:60-66**

REFLECT: Consider all the loss experienced by those who stopped following Jesus.

PRACTICE: Ask God to help you continue in the faith as the disciples did.

Thursday-

READ: **Ecclesiastes 3:6** and **Hebrews 12:1**

REFLECT: Some things are worthy of treasuring for the rest of our lives, while other things belong in the dumpster. You might fool yourself and others but God knows your heart.

PRACTICE: Examine your life for clutter that keeps you from being open to Scripture.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **Luke 10:31-42**

REFLECT: Consider what Mary gained by sitting at the feet of Jesus and consider the loss Martha would have had by being consumed with the clutter.

PRACTICE: Praise Jesus for being able to sit before him through the Word of God.

Friday-

READ: **John 15:8**

REFLECT: "An honest heart seeks to please God in all things and offend Him in none." A.W. Pink

PRACTICE: Identify the fruit that is coming from your life that brings honor to God. Praise Him for what he is doing through you.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: **James 1:22**

REFLECT: "There are two kinds of people one can call, reasonable: those who serve God with all their heart because they know him, and those who seek him with all their heart because they do not know him." Blaise Pascal

PRACTICE: Search your heart and acknowledge whether you are one who knows him or one who seeks him.

Saturday-

Build Your Time with God Today!

Here are some suggestions:

- Review your time with God this week and spend a few minutes journaling a prayer: of praise for who He is, of confession for areas in your life needing His transformation, of thanks for what He has done and of needs for what He can do.

- Check out a Bible memorization app like Remember Me and start memorizing a key verse from this series.

- Check out The Bible Project resources [here](#) on Right Now Media to gain more insight and encouragement as you Find Your Chair. (If you don't yet have a RNM account, email sarah@whoisgrace.com to get started.)

-For an in-depth study of the Kingdom of God from Genesis to Revelation, check out "The Kingdom" by Michael Fletcher (free study guide available for download). Find it [here](#) on Right Now Media.