

What Kind of Dirt Are You?, January 30 – February 2, 2025

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? ***Circle Two Opportunity...***

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face ***anything*** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and 2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

Housekeeping:

“Presence-Centered Discipleship” Course, six-week course starting Feb. 6

- practical teaching and tools to live lives of repentance, to follow Jesus more effectively – GOOD SOIL!

Tonight: God is pushing us to see ourselves as we truly are through the paradigm of four soils.
Meta-communication is a part of seeing as God sees and growing in Christlikeness
God is challenging us to do W.I.T. to be good soil.
Review of Jan. 19 correction statements through the lens of becoming good soil.

We must not lose this or waste this!!

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly

Christians and pastors go their whole lives without a January 19 experience with God

God’s Promises:

Philippians 1:6 (ESV) And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

John 15:11 (ESV) These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Joining God to leverage His work in us

1. God is pushing us to see Truth – God spoke convincing Truth to us Jan. 19.

2. God is pushing us to See Ourselves.

Luke 8:4–15 (ESV) (pew Bible page 865)

➔ Hard soil - too hard to root

➔ Rocky soil – too shallow to endure testings

➔ Thorny soil – too attached to cares, riches, pleasures

➔ Good soil – hold tightly, high moral excellence, persevering

Luke 8:15 (NIV84) But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

noble & good = selflessly devoted to Jesus’ Heavenly Realm

hold it fast = live God’s truth

patience = perseverance

bear fruit = character and behavior like Jesus

3. God is challenging us to be Good Soil.

† Don’t assume you are good soil. Evaluate in Throne Room.

† W.I.T. attitude

- ➔ Adequate time with God
- ➔ Asking questions in conversation with God
- ➔ Lifestyle of repentance/ Y's in road
- ➔ Accountable for and to one another
- ➔ Review January 19 statements through the lens of four soils
- † You believe you are doing better in following Me than you are because you are comparing to yourself or others instead of to Christ
- † Your comfort, ease, possessions, pleasure has made it easy to:
 - ✓ believe you are fully following Me when you are not...
 - ✓ make excuses instead of repent...
 - ✓ ignore or procrastinate obeying and not feel guilty...
 - ✓ straddle the fence of living for Me and living for the world...
 - ✓ spend hours on entertainment and neglect adequate time with Me so that you are more conformed to the world than you realize ...
 - ✓ hold on to hurt, unforgiveness, anger and justify it instead of repent...
- † You know you are to carry a cross, but the cross you carry is a varnished, beautiful decoration you admire instead of the blood stained, splinter covered instrument of death that turns stomachs
- † You intellectually believe in Heaven and hell but you do not live for Heaven and you do not care that people are going to hell
- † You know that I prioritize giving yourselves to sacrificially love Me and people but you do not even understand sacrifice. You view inconvenience as sacrifice and pat yourselves on the back for being inconvenienced while you avoid opportunities to sacrifice for Me and people I give you.
- † Denying yourselves is so much more than you even understand
- † You are allowing and excusing behavior that should not be allowed because you want to be nice
- † You say you trust Me but are preoccupied with worries and fears
- † You have addictions you are excusing that prevent you from fully serving Me...& you don't see the impact.
- † There are works of the flesh still present and less fruit of the Spirit produced than you think – not so much the "BIG" sins as the subtle sins that often do more damage – anger, jealousy, division, gossip, impurity, poor stewardship and more.
- † You talk about speaking the truth in love but fail to speak parts of the truth that are important because it's uncomfortable – and that is NOT love.

Takeaways...

