

Casual Evangelization

Spiritual Mission: The Sower

Goal: Our call in defining our spiritual mission

Parables serve the purpose of giving spiritual nourishment to the simple and unlearned while allowing for even more profound nourishment for those who seek to understand its deeper truths through prayer and study. Parables are often deliberately open-ended, or sometimes even unconcluded, to stimulate reflection in the hearer so that he will internalize its meaning by reflection.

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are great, You are almighty.

Thank You for all you do.

Thank You for giving us the desire and the heart to be here.

May You help us open our hearts to You.

May You be here to guide us in our conversation.

May we recognize the life of Jesus and model our lives like Him.

May we recognize each others' lives to help support their growth,
to be here for one another and to have confidence in our fraternity.

Come Holy Spirit and fill our hearts in this moment.

Amen

The Parable of the Sower. (Mark 4)

On another occasion he began to teach by the sea. A very large crowd gathered around him so that he got into a boat on the sea and sat down. And the whole crowd was beside the sea on land.

And he taught them at length in parables, and in the course of his instruction he said to them, "Hear this! A sower went out to sow.

And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

Other seed fell on rocky ground where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep.

And when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots.

Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it and it produced no grain.

And some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit. It came up and grew and yielded thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

He added, "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear."

The Parable of the Sower Explained (Luke 8)

This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God.

Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved.

Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of trial.

As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit. But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance.

Reread in silence and reflect on the words in these parables. Imagine being in the crowd, listening to Jesus.

What word / phrase rouses up your spirit and lifts up your hearts?

What does the parable tell us about the world that God desires?

Consider: we are both the soil and the seed with the living word sown within us. What might the Holy Spirit be asking you to do to?

How can we cultivate the grounds of our hearts to be transformed in the Lord?

St. Jose Maria Escriva once wrote: "May Our Lord be able to use us so that, placed as we are at all the cross-roads of the world - and at the same time placed in God - we become salt, leaven and light. Yes, you are to be in God, to enlighten, to give flavor, to produce growth and new life. But don't forget that we are not the source of this light: we only reflect it."

Commitment/ Action Plan

Connect with a friend. Ask about their spiritual soil. Share where you are in your spiritual journey.

This week, let us will pray for

What is your takeaway to cultivate rich soil in this upcoming week:

"The Ultimate Man"

- Lives fully in the virtues
- Protects others, especially the young, old, and infirm
- Expects nothing in return
- Great courage in the face of pain
- Stoic response to everything
- Love is His greatest goal