

## ONE CONVERSATION

**Parents:** Quiz your student to help him or her remember the different types of soils Jesus taught about in Matthew 13:4-8. The four types of soil are the path, the rocky ground, the thorns, and the good soil. Each type of soil represents a different response to the gospel. The path represents a heart that has been deceived by the evil one as the birds representing Satan swoop in to sabotage the gospel from taking root (Matt. 13:18-19). The rocky ground represents a heart that seems to receive the gospel gladly at first, but then proves to have been shallow and without roots all along as the first testing of their faith easily scorches it (Matt 13:20-21). The thorns represent a heart that is overcome by the things of this world and cannot set aside meaningless pursuits to believe in Jesus as Lord (Matt. 13:22). The good soil, however, represents a Christian who bears fruit and does good works in the name of Jesus. This person not only receives the gospel, but also spreads the seeds of the gospel (Matt. 13:23).

Have an honest discussion with your student about which of these soils best represents his or her heart. Help them to see that it is not up to them to force a heart-change in someone else, but it is expected of them to answer the Great Commission and spread the seed of the gospel.

## CENTRAL TRUTH

Jesus used the Parable of the Sower to call Christians to share the gospel. In it, we see different types of hearts represented; some receptive and some non-receptive to the gospel.

## PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** The seeds of the gospel are to be scattered; even to the hearts of those who will not receive Christ. Jesus likened one type of person's heart to a path whereupon birds, representing the enemy, snatch the seed of the gospel away. He described another as rocky soil wherein the gospel seems to spring up quickly, but is proven to be fruitless as it fades when trial and difficulty come. He described yet another as soil that is overrun with weeds representing the worries of life and the trappings of materialism. Finally, He described the fertile heart of the believer who bears fruit 30, 60, and even 100 times over; scattering the seed of the gospel to hearts of all kinds. The people who truly understood His parables were saved while those with hard hearts would never grasp them.
- › **Memorize:** Matthew 13:9
- › **Pray:** Exalt God and invite His will to be done in your life. Ask for His provisions and forgiveness as you promise Him that you will forgive those in your life who have wronged you. Pray that He would multiply your spiritual impact 100 times over and make the commitment that you will scatter the seeds of the gospel to everyone you can.