



## Life Group Guide

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Speaker: Roy Fruits

### I COMMUNITY (15 min.) Introduce yourselves

**Pray!** What two things are you praying for Donald Trump, our soon-to-be president?

**Delight!** What human quality or trait do you think God delights in most? Why?

### II DISCIPLESHIP

**Big Idea:** Jesus invites you to daily sow the 'seed' of God's Word in your life by reading, meditating & obeying it; paying attention to your heart's response to God's Word.

**As you listened to the message, what thought did our Father impress upon you as to how to apply this message to your life? Why?**

### A. Message Discussion (50 min.) *Use bulletin message notes as you do this!*

#### **Read Matthew 13:1-9,18-23 twice & make 25 observations**

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.<sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."

<sup>18</sup> "Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup> yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, & in another thirty."

Write down your top 5 observations from what you read...

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

What do these verses say about God's Word...the seed?

\_\_\_\_\_

What are some of the characteristics of the following kinds of 'heart soils'?

Hard heart: \_\_\_\_\_

Shallow heart: \_\_\_\_\_

Strangled heart: \_\_\_\_\_

Open heart: \_\_\_\_\_

Which soil seems to describe the condition of your heart at this point? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

What causes your heart to be hardened? Shallow? Strangled? Open?

\_\_\_\_\_

What could you do to improve your heart's responsiveness to God's Word?

\_\_\_\_\_

What one thought can you share with someone that would encourage them?

\_\_\_\_\_

## B. Discipleship Principles (10 min.)

### Your Heart Condition

We are told to 'guard our hearts' (know our heart's condition). What is your heart like? What do you do to keep your heart 'open' & available to Jesus & people around you?

## C. Accountability & Prayer (30 min.)

 Pray for each other

Break into two smaller groups (men & women)

Share how you are doing with your responsibilities (personally, home, work).

Share one thing you would like the group to pray for you this week.

## III MISSIONAL LIVING (15 min.)

**Rockpoint Reaching:** Serving inside and outside of Rockpoint. Choose 1 this week

How can you serve together as a Life Group within the walls of Rockpoint?

How can you serve together as a Life Group outside the walls of Rockpoint?

**Rockpoint Missionary:** Pray for your Rockpoint missionary.