

SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 6/2/13

Matthew 13.1-23

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Announcements: Corporate Prayer tonight (6/2) and Baptism Service next Sunday (6/9).

SG Discussion Questions:

Focus: *To worship Jesus as our Sovereign Savior and to join with Him in sowing the Gospel liberally.*

1. Read Matthew 13:10-17. What does Jesus give as his reason for speaking in parables? If the "them" in verse 11 are the Pharisees and their followers, what evidence has Matthew given so far that shows how they have rejected Jesus? How is God's Sovereignty in view? How is man's free will in view? What does Jesus mean, "many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." Does anything stick out to you in this section?
2. Read Matthew 13:1-9. List the different types of soil.
3. Read Matthew 13:18-23. What do the four conditions of soil represent? What does the seed represent? Look through Matthew for mentions of "the kingdom" (see John the Baptist, Jesus, the disciples). How does it pertain to the message of the gospel?
4. How might Satan keep someone from understanding the gospel, as in the first soil?
5. How is an inability to persevere through suffering an affront to the gospel? (Meaning, how is it contrary to the gospel?) What does it mean someone "immediately receives it with joy"? How can you guard yourself and those you are discipling from this pitfall? What Scriptures may you need to mediate and/or memorize for this?
6. How are the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and affront to the gospel? How can you guard yourself and those you are discipling from this pitfall? What Scriptures may you need to mediate and/or memorize for this?
7. What is the big difference between the good soil and all the others? What type of fruit does this soil bear? How should that affect your evangelism?
8. Without names or gossip, spend some time praying for those that may have fallen on the first 3 types of soil. Pray also for opportunities to sow the gospel liberally.