

**Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont**  
**Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit**  
**Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon**  
**Lesson # 7 July 11, 2023 – July 16, 2023**

**Unit II: Jesus envisions the Kingdom**

**Subject: Growing Strong**

**Text: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

**Key Verse:**

**He that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it, which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty (Matthew 13: 23, KJV).**

**Lesson Pointers:**

- 1) Parable Told (Matthew 13: 1-9)
- 2) Parable Unfolded (Matthew 13: 18-23)

**Introduction**

As we grow as believers, we are to be mindful of our social and spiritual soil (our soul) in which we immerse ourselves. Some of us has been placed in soils that are different, such as, wayside soil (outside of society), stony soil (hard or difficult life), thorns soil (care of the world), and some on good soil, that bring forth some hundredfold, some sixtyfold, and some thirtyfold, but the main thing is that all of the soils (soul's) no matter the kind (good/bad) heard the word of GOD, some may hear and not believe, some may hear and received but cannot retain the word because of their lack of faith, and some may receive and believe and bring forth much fruit. So, every soul's that response to the word of GOD reflects the spiritual condition of his/her heart, no matter their environment, and upbringing.

**Growing Strong!**

**Lesson Pointer # 1**

- Parable Told (Matthew 13: 1-9)

JESUS CHRIST reveals the picture of GOD'S Kingdom, using words designed to help us grow strong in the will and work of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. JESUS CHRIST words reveals to us the very power of HIS WORD and the reality of the presence of evil. Now, as the people heard JESUS CHRIST speak, the crowd of people grow that same day, causing JESUS CHRIST to leave the house and to go by the seaside (Matthew 13: 1). It was not uncommon for JESUS CHRIST to go and speak by the seaside because HE often taught along the coast, on shore or from a boat, because JESUS CHRIST used nature that HE created as natural acoustics as a microphone (Matthew 13: 2). JESUS CHRIST spoke to the people in parables (a earthly story with a heavenly message), so that the people would understand the word of GOD (Matthew 13: 3). Now, the parable of the Sower (one who proclaims the word of GOD), JESUS CHRIST gives some different responses to the Kingdom; saying, some of the Sower's seed (seed is the Word of GOD) fell by the wayside, making it visible to see and ease for birds to eat or enemies to devour (Matthew 13: 4). Some seeds fell on stony soil (heart being harden), although they grew in faith to the word of GOD, but soon their faith withered away because their faith lacked sufficient roots

**(Matthew 13: 5). The sun that was intended to support the seed's growth scorched and ruined the seeds, in other words false prophets or Pastor come and makes the word ineffective (Matthew 13: 6). Also, some seeds fell among thorns, and when it grew, the care of the world choked them, and they died (Matthew 13: 7). Now, finally, some seed's fell on good soil where the word was adequately nurtured and taught, grew, and produced a fruitful harvest, some hundredfold, some sixtyfold, and some thirtyfold (Matthew 13: 8). JESUS CHRIST proclaimed to the people, they who have ears to hear, let him hear (Matthew 13: 9).**

**Growing Strong!**

**Lesson Pointer # 2**

- **Parable Unfolded (Matthew 13: 18-23)**

**JESUS CHRIST informed HIS disciples to hear and understand the parable of the Sower (Matthew 13: 18). Notice that in the parable, the Sower represents JESUS CHRIST and the seeds, the Gospel; the bird, the Evil One, and soil, the world, which are the people who heard the Gospel. When the Gospel is heard among the stony hearts, they hear the word and is excited to receive GOD'S Word, but because of their lack of faith they lose what they have heard. Because they cannot handle persecution when it comes; they allow the Word of GOD that they heard fall to the wayside. Now, those whose hearts are stony become distracted by the cares of the world; making it hard to grow in the love and knowledge of the Word of GOD (Matthew 13: 19-21). JESUS CHRIST explains that he that received seed among the thorns is the ones who heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, making it hard to believe, so, therefore, they become unfruitful (Matthew 13: 22). The seeds that fell among good ground are those who received and heard and obey the Word of GOD, produces a rich spiritual crop, yielding a harvest of hundred, sixty, or thirty times that which they initially received (Matthew 13: 23). When one is rich in GOD, he/she is always fruitful. Being in GOD'S Kingdom is being active participants with JESUS CHRIST in winning souls back to GOD.**

**Growing Strong!**