

Creekside Community Church
"The Return of the King" The Gospel of Matthew
September 17, 2017
John Bruce - Pastor

Three Reasons Your Faith May Not Be Growing

Matthew 13:1-23

A. No Interest (Matthew 13:19)

B. No Convictions (Matthew 13:20-21)

C. No Priorities (Matthew 13:22)

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Is your faith growing, holding steady or declining? How do you know?

Going Deeper

3. Please read Matthew 13:1-9 and 18-23. What is a parable? Why do you think Jesus pictures the word of God as seed? What do seed and the word have in common? What does this parable reveal about reasons faith doesn't grow? Which of the soils do you think describes you most accurately?
4. Please read Matthew 13:10 -17. Why did Jesus teach in parables? Who understood Jesus' parables? Why? Why wouldn't God want everyone to understand Jesus' parables? What do these verses imply about those who do understand God's word?
5. How would you advise the hard soil individual who has no interest in the truths of Scripture? How would you advise the rocky soil individual who has no convictions about the Scriptures? How would you advise the thorny soil individual who doesn't make the Scripture a priority?
6. What is necessary to become good soil according to Jesus? What is one thing you could do to become good soil?

Application: What is one lesson you've learned from this passage and how will you apply it to your life?