

The wayside heart loses the Word through spiritual theft.  
The stony heart loses the Word through pressure.  
The thorny heart loses fruit through distraction and desire.  
The good ground heart keeps the Word until harvest comes.

The issue is not whether the Word works.  
The question is: What kind of ground will my heart be?



**The Mystery of the Kingdom Revealed – The Word and The Heart**  
Sunday, May 3, 2026

**Mark 4:9 (NKJV)**

And He said to them, “**He who has ears to hear, let him hear!**”

**Mark 4:10 (NKJV)**

But **when He was alone**, those around Him with the twelve **asked Him about the parable.**

**Mark 4:11 (NKJV) Also (Matthew 13:11, Luke 8:10)**

And He said to them, “**To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside**, all things come in **parables**,

**Mark 4:12 (NKJV)**

so that ‘**Seeing** they may see and **not perceive**, And **hearing** they may hear and **not understand**; Lest they should turn, And their sins be forgiven them.’ ”

**Four types of ground/hearts mentioned:**

**Indifferent hearers**

**Emotional hearers**

**Worldly hearers**

**Spiritual hearers**

**The enemy’s goal is to stop the Word from producing.**

**1 Peter 1:23 (NKJV)**

having been **born again**, not of corruptible seed but **incorruptible**, through **the word of God which lives and abides forever**,

**Romans 10:17 (NKJV)**

So then **faith comes by hearing**, and **hearing by the word of God**.

**James 1:21 (NKJV)**

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive with meekness the implanted word**, which is able to **save your souls**.

**1. The Wayside Heart: The Word Must Be Understood and Received**

**Mark 4:15 (NKJV)**

And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, **Satan comes immediately and takes away the word** that was sown in their hearts.

**A hardened heart can hear truth but not absorb it.**

**Hebrews 4:2 (NKJV)**

For indeed **the gospel was preached to us as well as to them**; but **the word** which they heard **did not profit** them, **not being mixed with faith** in those who heard it.

**2 Corinthians 4:3 (NKJV)**

But **even if** our gospel is veiled, **it is veiled to those who are perishing**,

## **2 Corinthians 4:4 (NKJV)**

whose **minds the god of this age has blinded**, who **do not believe**, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

## **Hebrews 3:15 (NKJV)**

while it is said: “**Today, if you will** hear His voice, **Do not harden your hearts** as in the rebellion.”

## **2. The Stony Heart: The Word Must Survive Pressure**

### **Mark 4:16 (NKJV)**

These likewise are the ones sown on **stony ground** who, when they **hear the word**, **immediately receive** it with **gladness**;

### **Mark 4:17 (NKJV)**

and **they have no root in themselves**, and so **endure only for a time**. Afterward, when **tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake**, immediately they stumble.

**Pressure is designed to make the believer question, abandon, or loosen their grip on what God has said.**

### **Acts 14:22 (NKJV)**

strengthening the souls of the disciples, **exhorting them to continue in the faith**, and saying, “We must **through many tribulations** enter the kingdom of God.”

### **2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV)**

Yes, and **all who desire to live godly** in Christ Jesus **will suffer persecution**.

### **James 1:2 (NKJV)**

My brethren, **count it all joy** when you fall into various trials,

### **James 1:3 (NKJV)**

**knowing that the testing of your faith** produces patience.

### **James 1:4 (NKJV)**

But **let patience have its perfect work**, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking nothing**.

**The Devil wants the believer to become offended at God, offended at people, or offended at the process.**

## **3. The Thorny Heart: The Word Must Not Be Choked by Competing Desires**

### **Mark 4:18 (NKJV)**

Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who **hear the word**,

### **Mark 4:19 (NKJV)**

and the **cares of this world**, the **deceitfulness of riches**, and the **desires for other things** entering in **choke the word**, and it **becomes unfruitful**.

**The Word cannot produce fully in a heart crowded with worry and divided desires. The seed is good, but the soil is occupied.**

### **Matthew 6:24 (NKJV)**

“**No one can serve two masters**; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

## **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)**

But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and **all these things** shall be **added** to you.

## **1 Timothy 6:9 (NKJV)**

But **those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare**, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

## **1 Timothy 6:10 (NKJV)**

For **the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**, for which some have **strayed from the faith** in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

## **1 Timothy 6:17 (NKJV)**

**Command those who are rich in this present age** not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

## **Proverbs 23:5 (NKJV)**

**Will you set your eyes** on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.

**The kingdom requires priority. Jesus said to seek first the kingdom of God. The Word must have first place, not leftover space.**

## **4. The Good Ground Heart: The Word Must Be Heard, Received, and Kept Until It Produces**

### **Mark 4:20 (NKJV)**

But these are the ones sown on **good ground**, those who **hear the word**, **accept** it, and **bear fruit**: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.”

**The Word is designed to produce more than survival.**

**It is designed to produce fruit that glorifies God and blesses others.**

### **John 15:7 (NKJV)**

If you **abide in Me**, and My **words abide in you**, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

### **John 15:8 (NKJV)**

By this **My Father is glorified**, that you **bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples.

### **James 1:25 (NKJV)**

But he who **looks** into the perfect law of liberty and **continues** in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a **doer** of the work, **this one will be blessed in what he does**.

### **Isaiah 55:10 (NKJV)**

“For **as the rain** comes down, **and the snow** from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may **give seed to the sower** And **bread to the eater**,

### **Isaiah 55:11 (NKJV)**

**So shall My word be** that goes forth from My mouth; It **shall not return to Me void**, But it **shall accomplish what I please**, And it **shall prosper** in the thing for which I sent it.