#### LESSON 55

- 1. Why did the Pharisees hate Jesus?
- -Because Jesus told them that He was God the Savior.
- 2. Why else did the Pharisees hate Jesus?
- -Because Jesus told them that they were sinners, and that God would punish them if they did not repent.
- 3. Why else did the Pharisees hate Jesus?
- -Because many people followed Jesus, and the Pharisees were jealous of Jesus.
- 4. If Jesus would break one of God's commandments, then what would the Pharisees do?
- -They would condemn Jesus to death.
- 5. Would Jesus break one of God's commandments? -No.
- 6. Why would Jesus never break one of God's commandments?
- -Because Jesus is perfect.
- -Because Jesus is God.
- -Because Jesus is without sin.
- -Because Jesus obeyed God the Father in everything.
- 7. Why did Jesus not obey the Pharisees?
- -Because the Pharisees had changed the commandments of God.

- 8. How did the Pharisees change the commandments of God?
- -They added their own laws to God's commandments, making God's commandments to be a lie.
- 9. Why was Jesus angry with the Pharisees?
- -Because Jesus saw that their hearts were stubborn.
- 10. How did Jesus know that their hearts were stubborn?
- -Because Jesus can look into every heart of every person.
- -Because Jesus knows every heart of every person.
- 11. After Jesus healed the man with the shriveled hand, what did the Pharisees do?
- -They went out of the synagogue and began to plot how they might kill Jesus.
- 12. Why did the demons call Jesus the Son of God?
- -Because they knew that Jesus had come from God the Father.
- 13. Why do the demons not want you to believe in Jesus?
- -Because the demons do not want you to escape their power.
- 14. From the people who followed Him, how many men did Jesus choose to be His special disciples?
- -Twelve.

- 15. What were these twelve men called? -Apostles.
- -After Jesus had chosen His twelve apostles, He continued to teach the people.

### Let's read Mark 4:1

- 1-Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge.
- -Because of the crowd, Jesus sat in a boat on the lake.
- -Jesus taught from the boat while the people listened from the shore of the lake.

# Let's read Mark 4:2a

- 2-Jesus taught them many things by parables
- -Jesus taught the people by parables.
- -What is a parable?
- -A parable is a story that teaches the truths of God.
- -Why did Jesus begin to teach the people in parables?

- -Even though many people followed Jesus, they did not believe in Him.
- -Even though many people followed Jesus, they did not believe His teaching.
- -Many people followed Jesus only to watch Him heal people, but they did not believe His teaching.
- -Many people followed Jesus only to watch Him drive out demons from people, but they did not believe His teaching.
- -Because many people did not believe His teaching, Jesus began to teach the people by parables.
- -As Jesus was teaching, He taught the people a parable.
- -Jesus taught the people the parable of the sower.

# Let's read Mark 4:2b-12

- 2-And in His teaching Jesus said:
- 3-"Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.
- 4-As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.
- 5-Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.

- 6-But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.
- 7-Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.
- 8-Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."
- 9-Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."
- 10-When Jesus was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.
- 11-He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables
- 12-so that, 'they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!'"
- -For the people who did not believe in Jesus, they would not understand the parable.
- -But for those people who did believe in Jesus, they would understand the parable and learn more about God.
- -God will only teach you if you want to know the truth.
- -If you do not want to know the truth, then God will not teach you.

-When Jesus' disciples asked the meaning of the parable, this is what Jesus said:

#### Let's read Mark 4:13-14

- 13-Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable?
  - 14-The farmer sows the word."
- -In the parable, what is the seed?
- -The seed is the Word of God.
- -In the parable, who is the sower?
- -The sower is the one who teaches God's Words.
- -Jesus said that just as there are different soils to plant in, so there are different hearts that the Word of God is planted in.
- -Jesus said that some people's hearts are like a path.

# Let's read Mark 4:15

15-Jesus said, "Some people are like the seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them."

- -How is the soil of a path?
- -It is very hard.
- -Why is it very hard?
- -Because many people are walking on it.
- -If a farmer plants seed on a hard path, will it give fruit? -No.
- -Why will a seed planted on a hard path not give fruit?
- -Because the path is hard, the seed will not penetrate into the soil.
- -Then, birds or other animals will come and take away the seed so that it will not grow.
- -Jesus said that some people's hearts are like a hard path.
- -Which people are like a path?
- -The hearts of these people are hard.
- -The Word of God cannot penetrate into their hearts.
- -These people do not want to listen to God.
- -These people do not want God to teach them.

- -These people do not want to follow God.
- -These people only want to follow the ways of their ancestors.
- -When these people hear the Word of God, they soon forget the Word of God that they have heard.
- -Then, Satan comes and takes the Word of God away from them.
- -Is your heart like a path?
- -Jesus also said that some people's hearts are like a rocky soil.

### Let's read Mark 4:16-17

16-Jesus said, "Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy.

17-But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the world, they quickly fall away."

- -How is the soil of a rocky soil?
- -It is a soil that is not deep.
- -Why is it not deep?

- -Because there is rock just under the surface.
- -If a farmer plants seed in a rocky soil, will it give fruit? -No.
- -Why will a seed planted in a rocky soil not give fruit?
- -Because the soil is not deep, and the roots cannot grow deep into the soil.
- -Jesus said that some people's hearts are like a rocky soil.
- -Which people are like a rocky soil?
- -On the top, these people say that they believe in God, but there is no belief underneath.
- -These people say that they believe in God, but when problems come, they turn away from God's truths.
- -These people say that they believe in God, but when others make fun of them, they turn away from God's truths.
- -These people say that they believe in God, but when they become afraid of the spirits, they turn away from God's truths.
- -Is your heart like a rocky soil?

-Jesus also said that some people's hearts are like a soil with many thorns.

### Let's read Mark 4:18-19

- 18-Jesus said, "Still others, like the seed sown among thorns, hear the word;
- 19-but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful."
- -How is the soil with many thorns?
- -It is a soil which has not been plowed.
- -If a farmer plants seed in a soil with many thorns, will it give fruit?
- -No.
- -Why will a seed planted in a soil with many thorns not give fruit?
- -Because the many thorns will choke the plant.
- -Jesus said that some people's hearts are like a soil with many thorns.
- -Which people are like a soil with many thorns?

- -These people say that they believe in God, but their desires are more important to them than God.
- -These people say that they believe in God, but having much money is more important to them than God.
- -These people say that they believe in God, but having a big house or owning many cattle is more important to them than God.
- -Is your heart like a soil with many thorns?
- -Jesus also said that some people's hearts are like a good soil.

#### Let's read Mark 4:20

- 20-Jesus said, "Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop--thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown."
- -How is the soil of a good soil?
- -It is a soil that has been well plowed.
- -If a farmer plants seed in a good soil, will it give fruit? -Yes.
- -Why?

- -Because the soil is not hard.
- -Because the soil is very deep.
- -Because there are no thorns.
- -Because the soil has been well plowed.
- -Which people are like a good soil?
- -These people hear the Word of God, believe it completely, and produce much fruit.
- -These people know that they have been born into sin.
- -These people know that their sin merits eternal death.
- -These people know that only God can save them.
- -These people believe in Jesus the Savior.
- -These people believe in God's Word, and produce much fruit.
- -Is your heart like a good soil?