



Session Twenty-Seven: Prepare Your Heart for God's Word

Today's Point:

Jesus wants our hearts to be ready to hear and obey God's Word.

Bible Passage:

Mark 4:1-20

(The Parable of the Sower – Jesus teaches that God's Word is like seed and our hearts are like soil.)

Today's Bible Skill:

- Find the book of Mark in the New Testament
- Learn that parables are stories Jesus told to teach truth
- Learn that the Parable of the Sower is found in Mark 4:1-20

Parable Review (Kid-Friendly Summary):

Jesus told a story about a farmer throwing seeds. The seeds landed on:

1. **A hard path** – Birds snatched them up.
2. **Rocky ground** – They started growing but had no roots.
3. **Thorny soil** – Weeds choked them.
4. **Good soil** – The seeds grew and made more seeds!

The seed is **God's Word**. The soil is **our heart**. The good soil listens, understands, and obeys.

Bible Truth Activity:

Game: “Heart Prep Relay”

Object of the game: Teach how to prepare our hearts to receive God’s Word.

Materials:

- Items that represent “heart preparation” (Bible, prayer card, worship note, helping hand cutout, ear symbol, etc.)
- Baskets or buckets labeled “Good Soil Tools”

Directions:

1. Place items across the room.
2. Kids run one at a time to pick up one item and return it to the “Good Soil Tools” basket.
3. Talk about what each item means: reading God’s Word, listening at church, praying, showing kindness, etc.

Say:

Just like a farmer gets the ground ready before planting, we can get our hearts ready too. When we pray, read the Bible, and listen to Jesus, our hearts become good soil.

Bible Discovery Discussion:

Ask the kids:

- What are some things that make our hearts hard, rocky, or crowded?
- What does “good soil” look like in our lives?
- How can we make our hearts ready for God’s Word?

Say:

God wants our hearts to be soft, open, and ready—so that His Word can grow and help us become more like Jesus. We can ask Him to help us every day!

Bible Verse Activity – Plant and Say

Focus verse:

Mark 4:20 (CSB):

“And those like seed sown on good ground hear the word, welcome it, and produce fruit.”

Mark 4:20 (KJV)

And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

Instructions:

1. Sit in a circle.
2. Hand a small ball (the “seed”) from one child to the next as the verse is recited, word by word.
3. When the verse is finished, whoever holds the “seed” stands and says, “I want to be good soil!”

Say:

The good soil doesn’t just listen—it grows. When we listen to Jesus and do what He says, we grow “fruit” like kindness, patience, and love.

Bible Skills Activity: “Soil Cups Science”**Materials:**

- 4 clear cups labeled: Path, Rocks, Thorns, Good Soil
- In each: use hard surface (cardboard), pebbles, paper shreds (for thorns), and potting soil
- Plant seeds (or paper ones) in each cup

Instructions:

1. Show each cup and explain what kind of “heart” it represents.
2. Ask what would happen to a seed in each kind.
3. Talk about how only the seed in good soil can grow strong.

Say:

Let’s be like the cup with the good soil—ready to let God’s Word grow in us every day. We want to be the kind of heart that listens and obeys!