



# GOD SPEAKS

**THIS SERMON WILL HELP YOU IDENTIFY HINDRANCES TO YOUR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND HOW TO CORRECT THEM.**

## 1. YOU NEED TO PLOW THE \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>3</sup>Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. (Matthew 13:3-4)

<sup>8</sup>“Therefore hear the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. Matthew 13:18-19

## 2. YOU NEED TO PUT DOWN \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>5</sup>Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. Matthew:5-6

<sup>20</sup>But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. Matthew 13:20-21

## 3. YOU NEED TO PULL THE \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>7</sup>And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. Matthew 13:7

<sup>22</sup>Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. Matthew 13:22

# GOD INVITES

**In conclusion, if you really want to have a spiritually productive life, you can have it. Jesus said: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled” (Matthew 5:6).**

**If you truly want to live a spiritually productive life then plow the soil and prepare your heart to receive God’s word, put down roots and persevere through the trials of life, and pull the weeds of worldly wealth and pursue spiritual riches instead. If you do these things then you will have good soil and the seed of God’s word will produce a bountiful harvest in your life. Jesus said that the harvest would yield “a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown”. You need to understand that at that time a seven-fold harvest was considered to be a good harvest so a harvest of even thirtyfold would have been miraculous not to mention sixty or a hundredfold. When you make your life match God’s model the results are miraculous.**

# GOD ENCOURAGES

**Why Do You Doubt?**

**Unifying Principle: An Amazing Feat**

**Matthew 14: 22-33**

