



## PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Marriage Encounter Online

**Read the parable and reflect on its meaning for you. Don't expect that everything will have special meaning for you -- perhaps just a few words will pop out or an overall impression will speak to you.**

### **Matthew 13**

That same day Jesus left the house and went to the lakeside, where he sat down to teach. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it, while the crowd stood on the shore. He used parables to tell them many things.

There was a man who went out to sow. As he scattered the seed in the field, some of it fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some of it fell on rocky ground, where there was little soil. The seeds soon sprouted, because the soil wasn't deep. When the sun came up it burned the young plants, and because the roots had not grown deep enough the plants soon dried up. Some of the seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, but some seeds fell in good soil, and bore grain: "some had one hundred grains, others sixty, and others thirty." And Jesus said, "Listen, then., if you have ears!"

Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no roots, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

Allow 10 minutes for PR, and 15 minutes for CD.

**Go in peace and write with love!**

### QUESTIONS FOR PR & CD

1. What does this passage say to me?
2. What obstacles hinder or prevent me from being open to the word of God?

