

A farmer went out to plant his seed...

Seeds never change they only produce what they are. The Word of God is constant, unchanging.

John 14:6, Proverbs 12:19, 1 John 2:3-6

Seed in Good soil grows roots of understanding.

Psalms 146, 1 Peter 2:2, Psalms 119:19

Seed in Good soil grows shoots of Action.

Proverbs 7:1-3, 2 Timothy 3:17, James 1:22-25

Seed in Good soil keeps the soil yielding.

John 8:30-32, Luke 9:35, John 14:2

NEXT STEPS

Use these notes to turn a message into a conversation. Join with one person or many and continue to grow by using these next steps this week.

MY STORY

What has been your attitude toward the word of God (seed)?

Review the following statements. What has been your approach to the word of God? How can changing your approach change your understanding of God's word?

Have the attitude of: "I want to know God better and I want to know what He wants of me.

- Not out of legalism...But out of love
- Not out of duty...But out of devotion
- Not with apathy...But with anticipation
- Not with reluctance...But with reverence
- Not just to be blessed (all about me)...But to be a blessing (about others)
- Not just to be informed (knowledge)...But to be transformed (life change)

GOING DEEPER

In Jesus' day, nobody questioned the reliability of the Bible. However, some religious leaders were undermining its authority by placing their cultural teachings and man-made rules on par with it. Remember, the seed (God's word) is never changing. Read Mark 7:1-13 to see how Jesus addresses this issue. What does he say are some of the results of elevating tradition and man-made rules to the level of God's Word?

Because the Bible is God's communication to us, (the Seed) we can expect it to have more impact in the lives of people than any other book ever written. In several places, the Bible uses various metaphors to explain the impact it can have on people's lives. Read each of the following verses and identify the metaphor used to describe the Bible. How have you seen each metaphor at work in your life?

- Hebrews 4:12

- Jeremiah 23:29

- Psalm 119:105

God gave us the Word not only to read and listen to, but also to apply to our lives. What insights do you see in the following passages that help you get to know the Bible better and apply it more consistently in your life?

- Joshua 1:6-9

- Deuteronomy 4:1-2

- Deuteronomy 6:1-9

TAKING IT HOME

Review James 1:22-24

Here are some ways to put into action what you hear and read:

- A Truth – Believe it
- A Promise – Claim it
- A Command/Instruction – Follow it
- A Sin – Avoid it
- A Warning – Heed it

This week look for these action steps as you study God's word.

PRAYER REQUESTS