

Episode 52

"The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation. The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity. And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent people who hear God's word, hold on to it no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest."

- Luke 8.13-15

Have you ever bought a car, or even been in the position where you are thinking of buying a certain car, and then all of a sudden, everywhere you look you see people driving that same car? It's almost as if they were never there before, but now the same streets you've been driving for years are filled with the very same car you want to buy for yourself?

I'm having a similar experience when it comes to the importance of rooting ourselves in scripture. It's almost as if verses I've never seen before pop off the page as reminders to root ourselves in the word, cheesy Whatsapp statuses are calling out to invest time in the word, a roadside advert calling us to feed on God's word and then today almost the entire chapter is about the power of the word in our lives!

With just a word, Jesus calms a storm. Just a word. I need His word to do that in my life today and looking at the current Covid infection rate, I would imagine you have a few storms that need calming too. We need the word of God to speak, to calm, to pour out a peace that passes all understanding.

With just a word, a demon-possessed man is delivered from years of oppression, torment, and rejection. Just a word. I need His word to do that in my life today, and in the lives of those around me as they face wave after wave of crippling oppression from unloving husbands, failing businesses, wayward teenagers, and vindictive parents.

With just a word, Jesus brought freedom to an entire region. Those who had lived in fear of this demon-possessed man, often attempting to bind him in chains in order to keep their loved ones safe, now no longer had to cower in fear, no longer had to keep away from the fields and hills around their town. With just a word, Jesus brought life and space and peace and freedom to an entire area. I need His word to do that in my life today. So many areas seem bound up, choked with chains, lacking the spaciousness of God's presence and calling and favour.

According to Eugene Peterson, the seeds that fell on good soil represent those of us who seize Scripture and hold on no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest, because just a word and storms are calmed, freedom flows once more, favour is found in even the darkest of places, the presence of God rushes in, and heaven touches earth with the fullness of the purposes of the kingdom of God.

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