

Equipped 11 - Managing Expectations

Matthew 13:1-23

4th July 2021

Introduction

When sowing God's word... (verses 1-3, 18-19)

> Parable of the sower: v1-9 – C____; v10-17 – Disciples – why Jesus speaks in parables; v18-23 – D____ - explaining the parable.

> Seed = m_____ about the kingdom

> Soils = different r_____

> Importance of sowing God's word in a way p_____ can understand

...Have realistic expectations... (verses 4-7, 18-22)

1, *In one e____, out the other (verse 19)*

2, *Shallow j____ (verses 20-21)*

3, *Choked by worldly c_____ (verse 22)*

Deeper reasons to explain this rejection? Matthew 11:16-19

> Assumptions made by p_____ / generations about God.

> Today's assumption: "I choose to be who I w_____ to be – and God has to bless that."

...With confident hope (verses 8-17, 23)

> Fourth soil: When someone accepts the m_____ there will be a great harvest (verse 23)

> "Why should we have confident hope when 3/4 reject?"

1, There is a positive response

2, It's not the end of the r_____

3, Not necessarily the proportions we should e_____

4, Jesus has prepared us

5, God is still in charge

– verses 10-17

– Jesus teaches in parables to make it h_____ to understand

– When people reject the message, God is working in j_____ (see also 2 Corinthians 2:15-16)

– So – he can still do something about it. And we can p_____

Thinking it through / Applying to ourselves

> How are we responding to God's word today?

> Do we fear rejection? How does today's message help us?

> Will we keep praying and proclaiming in confident hope?