



Week beginning July 12th

Grow where you are planted

Opening Questions

- If you had to describe yourself as a plant, which one would you choose?
- There are many verses in the Bible about plants and trees. Do you have a favourite one?
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Getting into the text

Read Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Looking at the parable and Jesus' explanation

- Who do the seeds on the path represent?
- Why do those who are like the seed on the rocky ground fall away?
- What do the thorns represent in a hearer of God's word?
- What happens when God's word (the seed) falls on good soil?

- What do you think Jesus means by the crop which is produced?

Applying the Bible to your life

- Do you see yourself or someone you know in this parable? Have there been times when God's word has not been able to take root? Why do you think this happened?
- What can you do to keep your heart to be ready to receive God's word like the good soil?
- If you are in a group, you might like to share the ways you spend time with God's word (Bible notes, an App etc). Is there a suggestion you could try in the coming weeks?

Something to pray about

Psalms 1 says, '**Blessed is the one...whose delight is in the law of the Lord...that person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither ...**'

- Give thanks for God's word and that it is freely available to you.
- Ask God to help you to be like the good soil, ready to receive from him.
- Pray for the work of the Bible Society which provides resources to help people understand the Bible and helps with the translation of the Bible into many different languages so that it is accessible across the world.