

"What Kind of Soil Are You?"
Mark 4:1-20

- I. Introduction

- II. Teaching in parables
 - A. Definition

 - B. What makes parables such an effective teaching tool?

 - C. Why did Jesus teach in parables? (Mark 4:10–12)
 - 1. Parables as a mirror.
 - 2. Parables as a window
 - 3. Parables as a veil

 - D. Questions to ask as we read parables

- III. The parable of the sower
 - A. The context (Mark 4:1)

 - B. The seed and the sower (Mark 4:14)
 - 1. The seed
 - 2. The sower

 - C. The soils
 - 1. The hard path (Mark 4:15; Ezekiel 36:26)
 - 2. The rocky ground (Mark 4:16-17; 1 Peter 4:12-13)
 - 3. The weedy ground (Mark 4:18-19)
 - 4. The good soil (Mark 4:20)

- IV. Conclusion