



## Personal Study

(1) Read Mark 4:1-9. Jesus used an agricultural story in the first century to teach people about the kingdom of God. If you were re-writing this parable for today's non-agricultural society, how would you write it? \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Read Mark 4:10-12 and Isaiah 6:9-10. What part of Isaiah does Jesus leave out in Mark 4? What significance does this omission have? \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Read Mark 4:13-20. Write down the different characters we've met so far in the gospel of Mark. Then assign to each of them the type of soil that best describes their response to Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. Give three reasons that it is important to remember that though we plant the seed, God is the one who gives the growth: \_\_\_\_\_

(5) Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-8. Why is the message of the cross (and therefore the gospel) regarded as foolishness by the world? \_\_\_\_\_

(6) Read Matthew 13:1-23. Write down the differences you see in Matthew's telling of this story from Mark's telling: \_\_\_\_\_

## Personal Application

(1) Who have you stopped sharing the gospel with because of frustration and what would it take to encourage you to start sharing with them again? \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Why is it so hard to leave the results of evangelism to God? \_\_\_\_\_

(3) What kind of soil do you most relate to in Jesus' parable and why? \_\_\_\_\_

(4) What noise in your life is keeping you from effectively hearing God's voice? What practical steps can you take this week to be a better listener? \_\_\_\_\_

(5) How deep are your roots spiritually? How can we discern how deep our roots go? \_\_\_\_\_

(6) Why is it important to give God total credit for our salvation rather than trying to take credit for it? \_\_\_\_\_

(7) What is God saying to you through your study of this passage this week? What does He want you to learn and to change? \_\_\_\_\_