

# The Decision | Matthew 13

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*Parable: an illustrative story, by which a familiar idea is cast beside an unfamiliar idea in such a way that the comparison helps people to better understand and grasp the unfamiliar idea.*

## 1. JESUS REQUIRES A DECISION. (Matt 13: 1-23)

Wayside/Path Soil	
Rocky Soil	
Thorny Soil	
Good Soil	

## 2. WE CAN CHOOSE LIFE IN CHRIST OR DEATH IN SIN. (Matt 13: 24-30)

- The arrival of the Kingdom doesn't eliminate sin or evil
- Jesus requires faithfulness

### 3. THE INCREDIBLE AND SECRET GROWTH OF THE KINGDOM. (Matt 13:31-43)

### 4. THE VALUE OF BEING A PART OF THE KINGDOM. (Matt 13:44-52)

- It is so valuable that a man should give up everything necessary to be a part of it.
- We should do everything possible to possess it and to bring others into it.
- The point of this parable is that gaining the kingdom of Heaven is worth sacrificing any amount of worldly possessions should that be necessary.

### 5. THE CONSEQUENCE OF UNBELIEF AND LACK OF FAITH. (Matt 13:53-58)

*He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. And he was amazed at their lack of faith. (Mark 6:5-6)*

1. Unbelief became a barrier to divine blessing - it prevented Jesus from fully demonstrating His power
2. If we don't have faith, God can't do His work in our lives and in our hearts.
3. How are we limiting God in our lives?
4. Where is God asking for your faith?

#### Discussion Questions:

1. What immediately grabbed your attention when reading and studying Matthew 13?
2. What truth is God trying to reveal to you? What things in your life are hindering you from seeing this truth?
3. How do you maintain your "soil"? At what times in your life do you notice shifts in the quality of your soil?  
How correctable are you in these moments?
4. How does the power of our witness change when we see the small things we do can become big things for God?  
What can your good deeds, attitude and contributions produce for God's kingdom?
5. What does your life demonstrate that you value? How does this align with God's word?
6. Where in your life is God asking for your faith?