

Week 4:

A Fruitful Life



Weekly Questions

1. What story or illustration in the message really stuck out to you?
2. Read Mark 4:4-8. Which type of heart best describes your current heart toward God and His Word?
 - Hard Heart
 - Shallow Heart
 - Crowded Heart
 - Fertile Heart
3. Of the three things below, which activities are actively trying to choke out God's work in your life right now?
 - The worries of this life
 - The deceitfulness of wealth
 - The desires for things apart from God
4. Where is God working in your life to help make it more fruitful? How are you sharing those fruits with others?
5. Read Psalm 37:4. In what ways can you delight in the Lord?
6. What's one practical step you can take this week?

Scripture References

Read Ecclesiastes 5:1-2, Mark 4:4-8, Mark 4:14-20, Psalm 37:4

Takeaways

- The condition of your heart determines if you can receive the gift of fruitful fulfillment that God is giving to you.
- Your fulfillment and fruitfulness will increase to the extent that you cultivate your heart to respond submissively to God's Word.
- Only you can control the soil of your heart—which controls your level of fruitfulness and fulfillment.
- 4 Common Responses to God's Word
 - The Hard Heart
 - No spiritual life ever begins
 - The Shallow Heart
 - Good response, but doesn't last
 - The Crowded Heart
 - Cares about God but is too busy doing other things to produce spiritual fruit and fulfillment.

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- The Fertile Heart
 - Delights in God, receives and obeys God's Word
- 3 things actively trying to choke out God's work in your life right now
 - The worries of this life
 - The deceitfulness of wealth
 - The desires for things apart from God
- A receptive heart + God's Word = A fruitful, fulfilled life
- Only you can control the soil of your heart
- If you want more fulfillment, increase your
 - Exposure to God's Word
 - Tenderness of heart toward God