



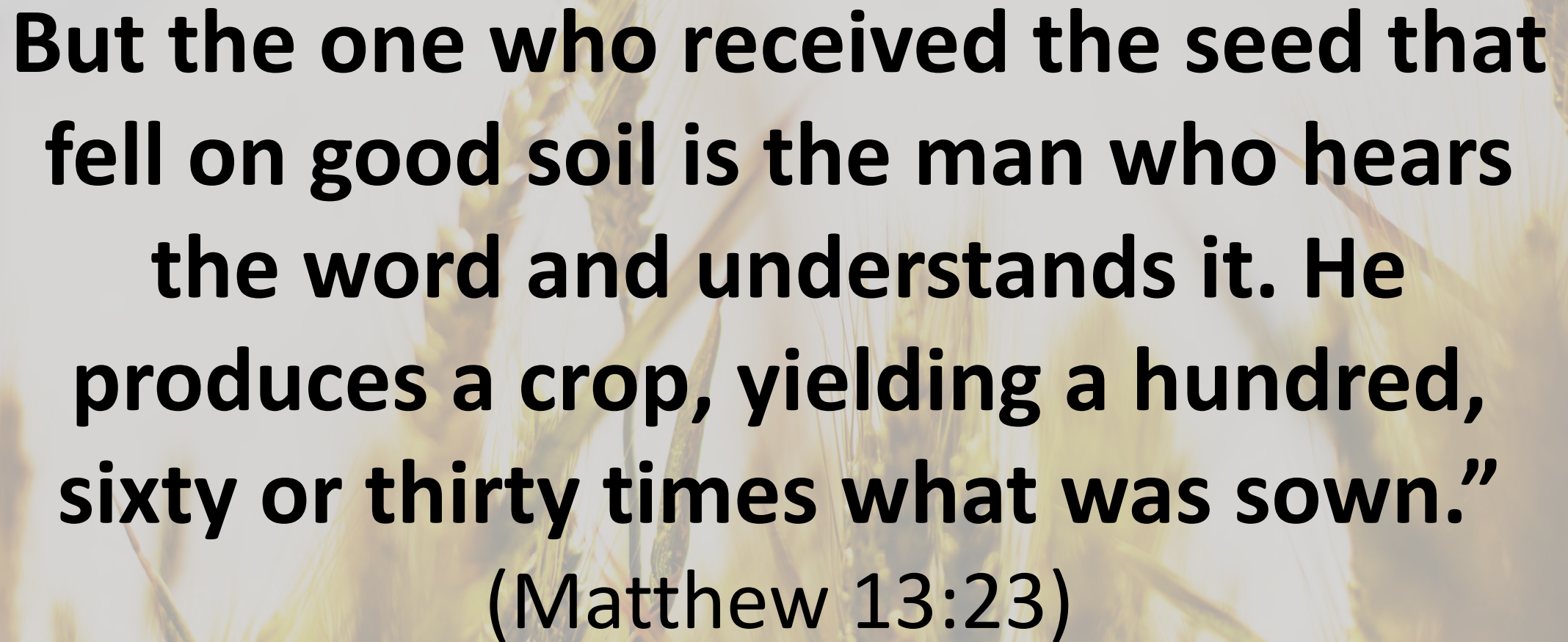
WORD

WITH REV DR PHILIP HUAN

Today's Session



[18] “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: [19] When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. [20] The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. [21] But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. [22] The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. [23] But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”



**But the one who received the seed that
fell on good soil is the man who hears
the word and understands it. He
produces a crop, yielding a hundred,
sixty or thirty times what was sown.”
(Matthew 13:23)**

THE WRONG HEART....



CONTENT DEVELOPMENT: REV. DR. PHILIP HUAN

Common Blocks to Growth in God:

When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. (Matthew 13:19)

Common Blocks to Growth in God:

**1. DIFFICULT TIMES &
DISCOURAGEMENT
UN-DEALT WITH
(13:19)**

Common Blocks to Growth in God:

The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. (Matthew 13:20-21)

Common Blocks to Growth in God:

**2. WRONG MOTIVATIONS
& DEEP-THIRSTS IN LIFE
(13:20-21)**

Common Deep Needs:

- i. Need to be secure**
- ii. Need to be valued**
- iii. Need to be significant**

Common Strategies people “Drink” to meet their needs:

- a. performance expectations**
- b. control**
- c. friendship & nice words**



Common Blocks to Growth in God:

The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful

(Matthew 13:22)

Common Blocks to Growth in God:

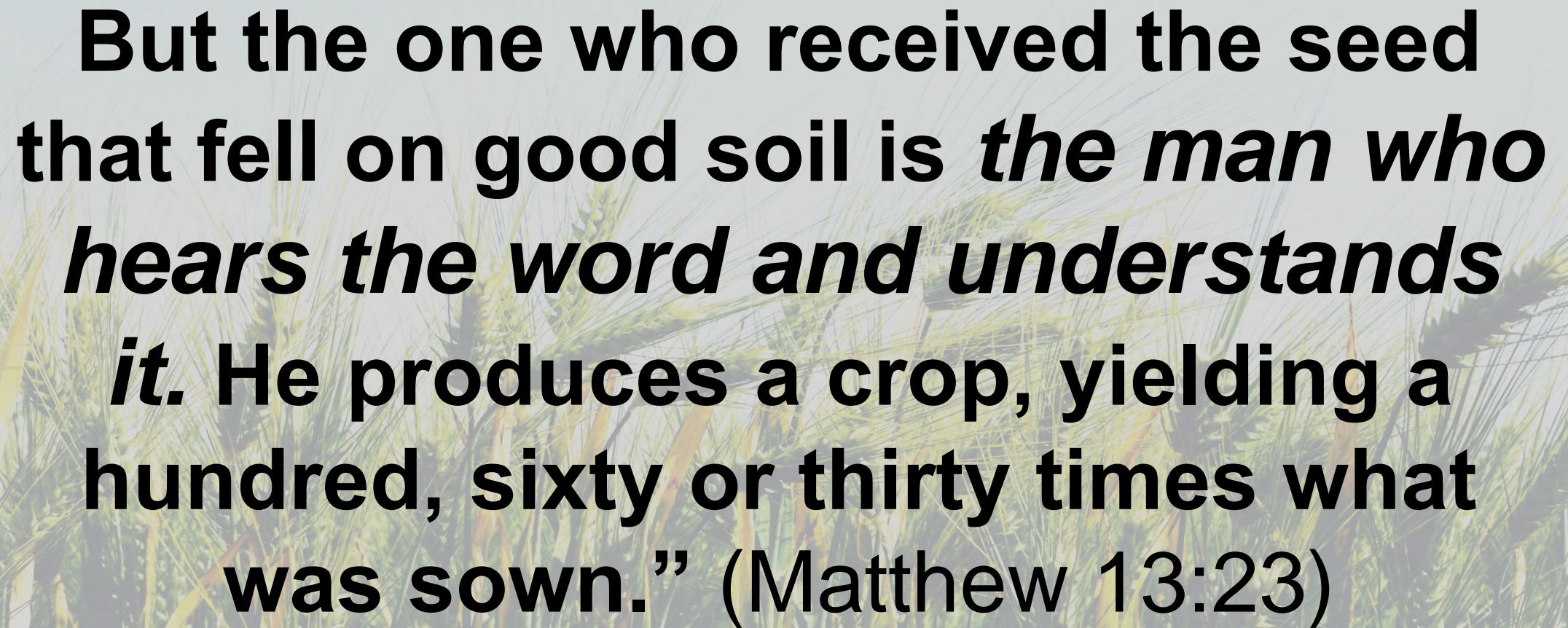
**3. MAKING AN UNBIBLICAL
RESPONSE TO
POSSESSIONS (13:22)**



**But just as you excel in everything
—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete
earnestness and in your love for us—see that
you also excel in this grace of giving.
(2 Corinthians 8:7)**



**Biblical Response: Money is a gift from God to
be used for blessing and impact**



But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is *the man who hears the word and understands it*. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” (Matthew 13:23)



An Understanding Heart:

- i. Gives full attention to God's word and space of heart to obey (hear)**

[29] As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. [30] Two men, Moses and Elijah, [31] appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. Then Peter saw his glory and the two men standing with him. Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.) [34] While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. [35] A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.”

(Luke 9:29-31, 34-35)

An Understanding Heart:

**ii. Seeks to know what it
means for your life and
how to apply (understand)**

**But the one who received the seed that
fell on good soil is *the man who hears the
word and understands it.* (Matthew 13:23)**



THE
WRONG
HEART....

The Wrong Heart

Discussion & Post-Reflection Questions



1. Of the 3 Common Blocks to Growth in God, which one applies / affects you most presently?

Share why, and what God may have said to you about it thus far.

Choose the area of block you feel you need to overcome. Make a commitment to do something about it. Share this with a partner and ask your partner to encourage / remind you on this.

(On the right are some exercises you may do to address specific blocks. The 1st part to reflect on your own with God, the 2nd part to do with a friend / mentor)

2. How can you create a better environment for yourself to hear God through the Word?

Share some ideas with one another.

Pick the best ones for yourself and apply!

Common Block 1:

What are some voices of “condemnation & discouragement” that you hear through past difficult times? List them down.

With Friend / Mentor: Find several Bible verses that speak directly to address the thoughts you think about.

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Common Block 2:

Of the common strategies people “drink from” shared, which do you find yourself tending to most often? Recall what situations usually trigger this.

With Friend / Mentor: Share this with someone you trust, ask for prayer & encouragement to “drink from God” in such times.

Common Block 3:

To what degree does finance, possessions and worry affect you? Share an instance where you struggled with this, and what God said to you.

With Friend / Mentor: Make a commitment to trust God for your finance, possessions & worries. Share this with someone and ask that person to hold you to it and remind you of your commitment from time to time.