



It's All About the Soil

Four Voices, One  
Story

A HARMONY OF THE GOSPELS

## Step 1



Scan QR Code or Go To:  
<https://attend.wordly.ai/join/UUCZ-2933>

## Step 2

A screenshot of the Wordly web interface. At the top left is the Wordly logo (a blue speech bubble with 'W' and the word 'wordly' in blue). Below it, in red, is the text 'AI-POWERED INTERPRETATION'. There are two input fields: 'Choose language \*' with a dropdown menu showing 'English (US)', and 'Enter Session ID \*' with a text input field. Below these is a 'More options' link with a question mark icon. At the bottom center is a blue 'Attend' button.

Choose Language  
Click Attend



## Step 3



Read Captions on Device  
Use Headset for Audio

# The Word Without Borders



For Next Week:

Mat 13:24-43

Mark 4:30-34

Luke 13:18-21

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# CALL TO THE WORD

**Matthew 13:1-9 (NKJV)**



## Intro

The seed — God's Word — is always good. The Sower — God Himself — is always faithful. But the soil, the heart, determines whether that seed just lies on the surface or takes root and bears fruit.

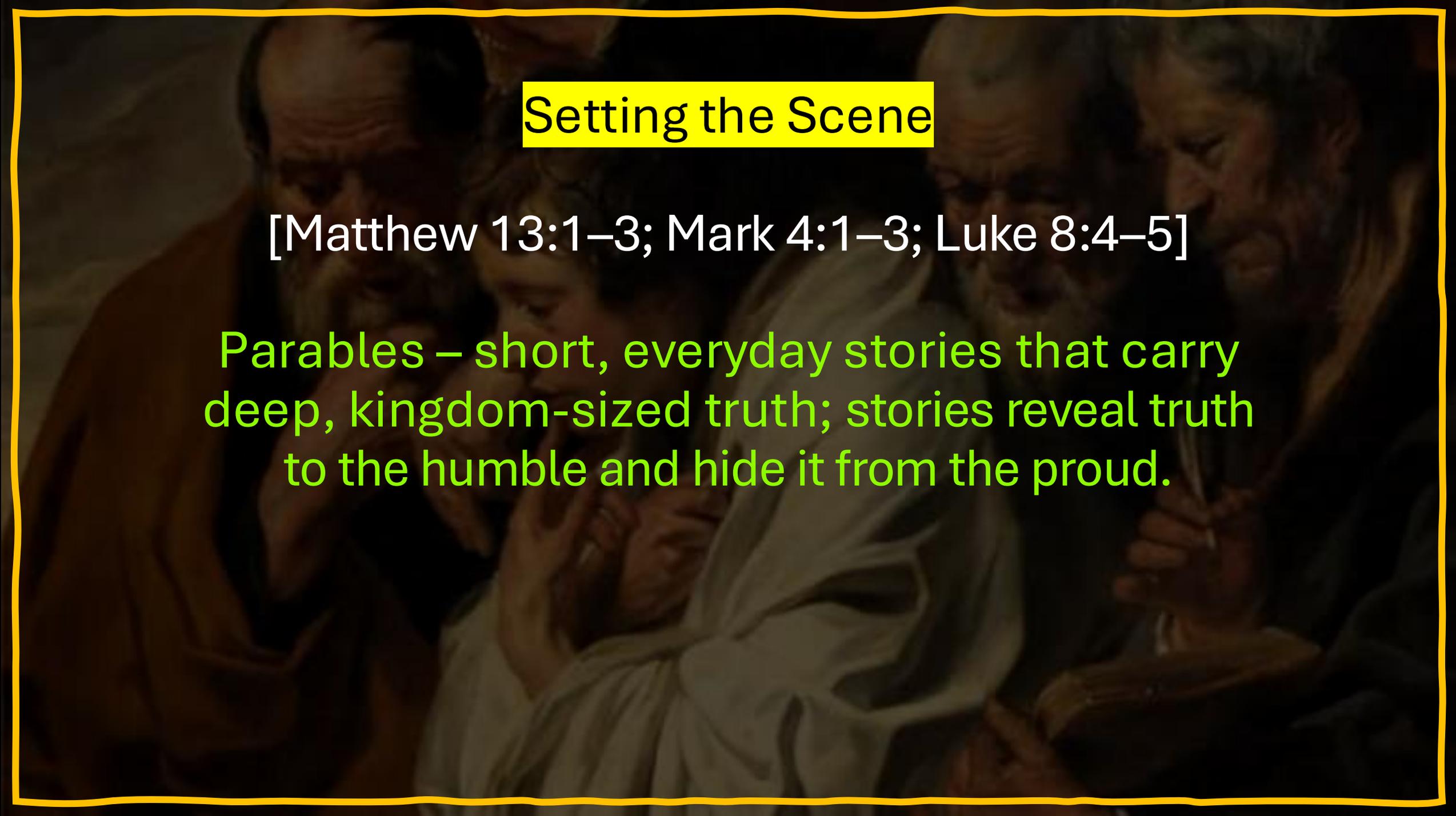


## Intro

### Isaiah 55:11

**“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please.”**

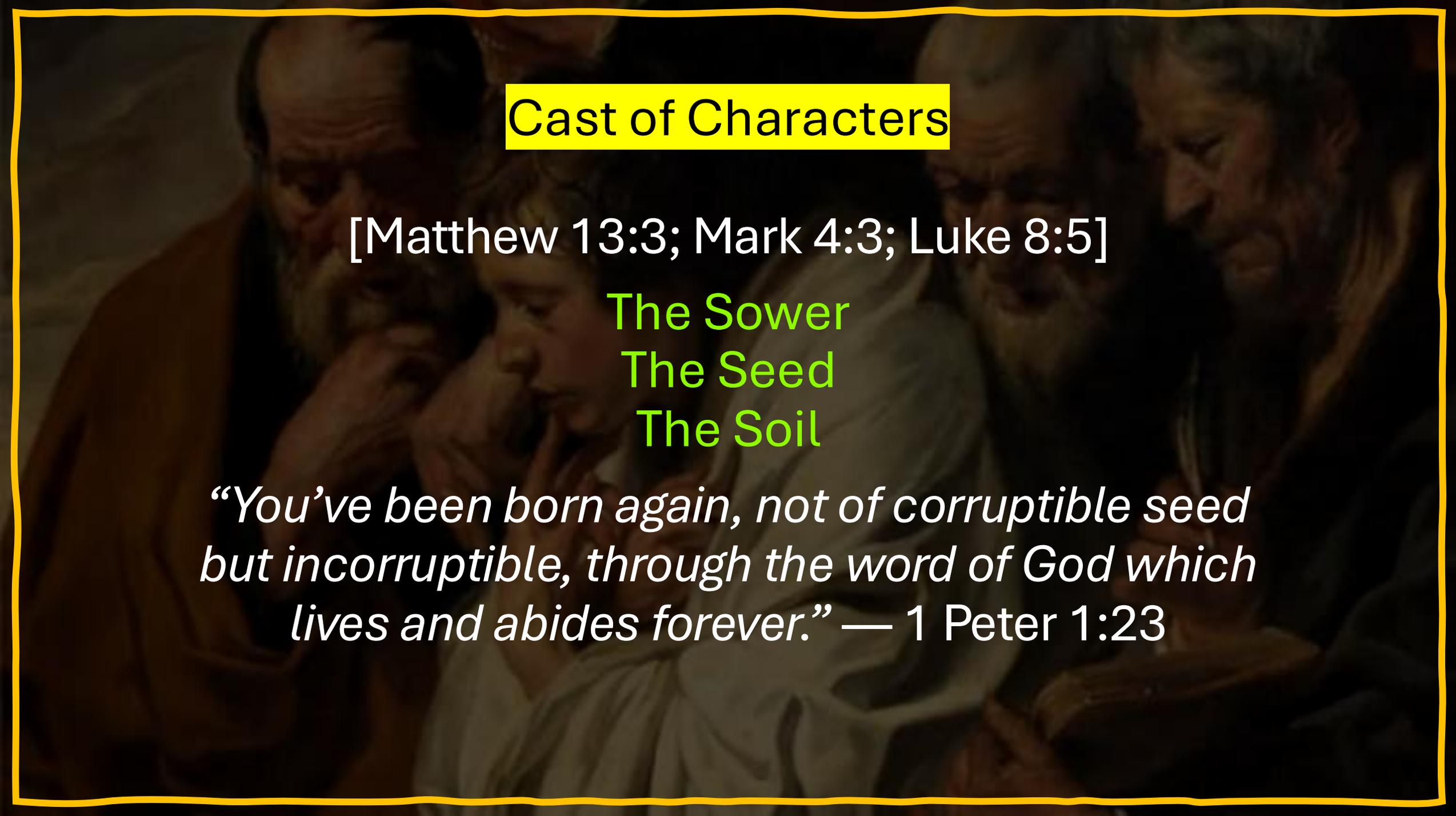




## Setting the Scene

[Matthew 13:1–3; Mark 4:1–3; Luke 8:4–5]

Parables – short, everyday stories that carry deep, kingdom-sized truth; stories reveal truth to the humble and hide it from the proud.

A group of people, including a man in a white robe, looking down thoughtfully.

## Cast of Characters

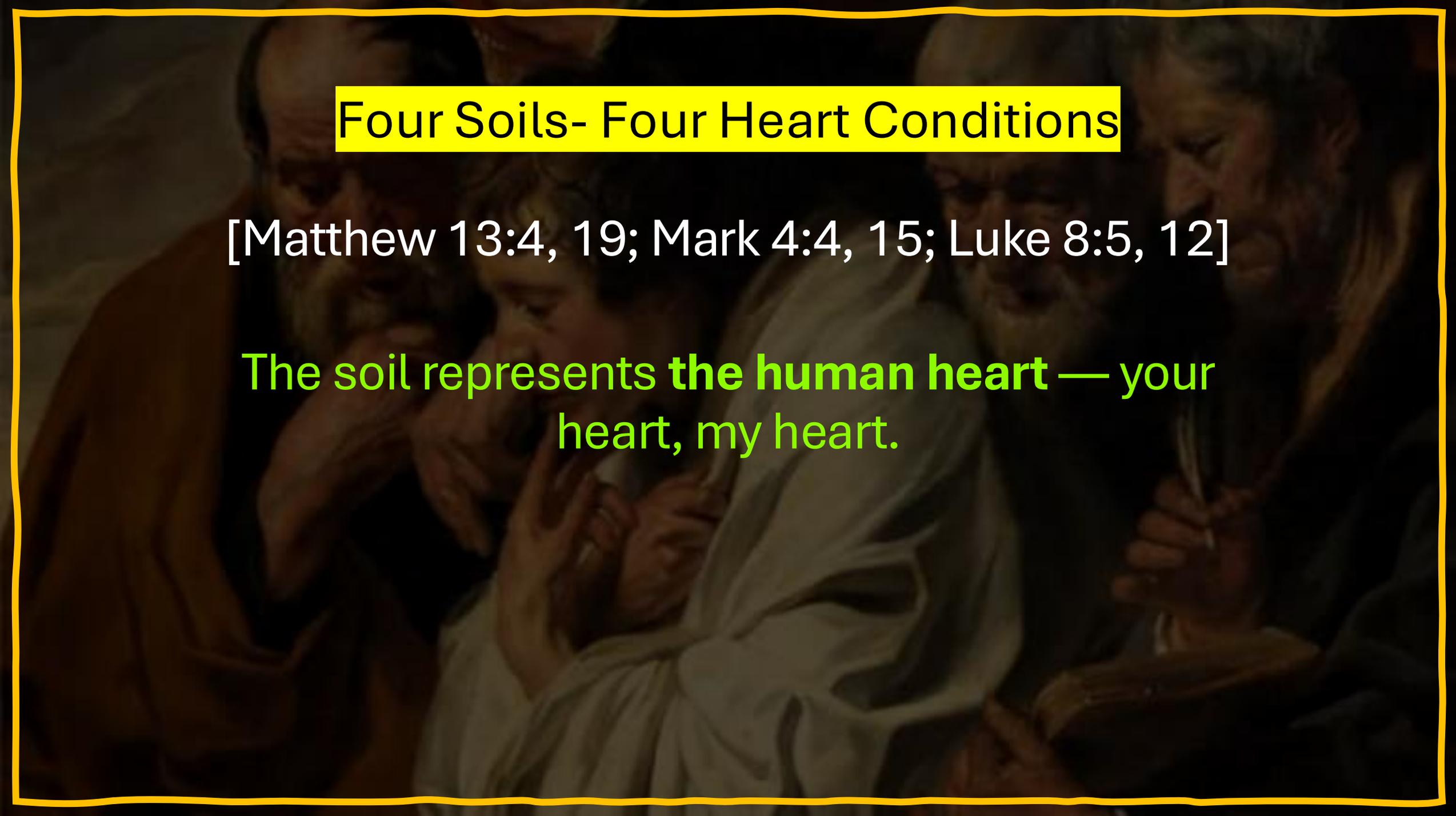
[Matthew 13:3; Mark 4:3; Luke 8:5]

The Sower

The Seed

The Soil

*“You’ve been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.” — 1 Peter 1:23*

A group of people, including men and women of various ages, are gathered together. In the center, a man wearing a white robe is speaking or gesturing towards the group. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere appears to be that of a church service or a religious gathering. The text is overlaid on this image.

## Four Soils- Four Heart Conditions

[Matthew 13:4, 19; Mark 4:4, 15; Luke 8:5, 12]

The soil represents **the human heart** — your heart, my heart.

## Four Soils- Four Heart Conditions

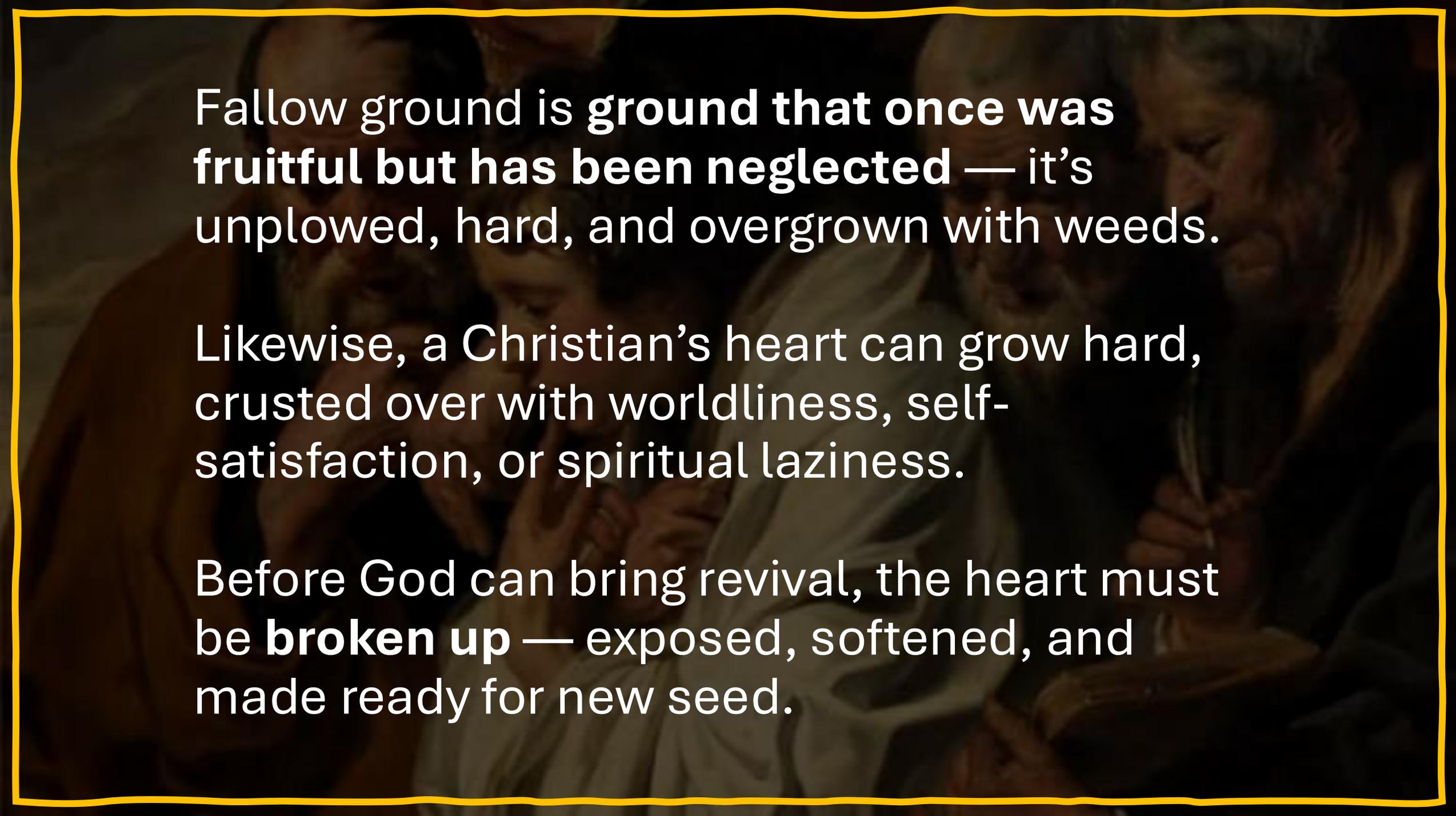
[Matthew 13:4, 19; Mark 4:4, 15; Luke 8:5, 12]

### Hard Soil – The Unresponsive Heart

*“Break up your fallow ground,  
for it is time to seek the Lord.”*

— Hosea 10:12



A group of people, including men and women of various ages, are shown in a state of prayer. They have their eyes closed and hands clasped together in front of them. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, golden light that creates a solemn and spiritual atmosphere. The background is dark, making the people stand out.

Fallow ground is **ground that once was fruitful but has been neglected** — it's unplowed, hard, and overgrown with weeds.

Likewise, a Christian's heart can grow hard, crusted over with worldliness, self-satisfaction, or spiritual laziness.

Before God can bring revival, the heart must be **broken up** — exposed, softened, and made ready for new seed.

# Breaking Up Fallow Ground Involves

- Examining yourself honestly
  - Confessing specific sins
  - Forsaking sin immediately
  - Renew your obedience
- Warnings:
    - You can't pray for revival while keeping your heart unplowed.
    - Don't just *feel* convicted — *act* on it.
    - God won't plant new seed where old weeds still rule.

# The Promise

When the ground is broken up, God sends the rain.  
When the heart is softened, He sends righteousness  
and renewal.

“The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.” Isa 55:10-12

## The Rocky Soil - The Shallow Heart

[Matthew 13:5–6, 20–21; Mark 4:5–6, 16–17; Luke 8:6, 13]

This is the **emotional hearer** — quick to respond, slow to endure. They're excited when it's easy, discouraged when it's hard. They want resurrection without crucifixion, blessings without battles.

*God's not looking for quick sprouts — He's growing oaks, not dandelions.*

## The Thorny Soil – The Crowded Heart

[Matthew 13:7, 22; Mark 4:7, 18–19; Luke 8:7, 14]

This is the **distracted hearer** — a heart full of Worries. Wealth. Wants.

*You can't grow two crops in one field. Something's gotta go — the weeds or the Word.*

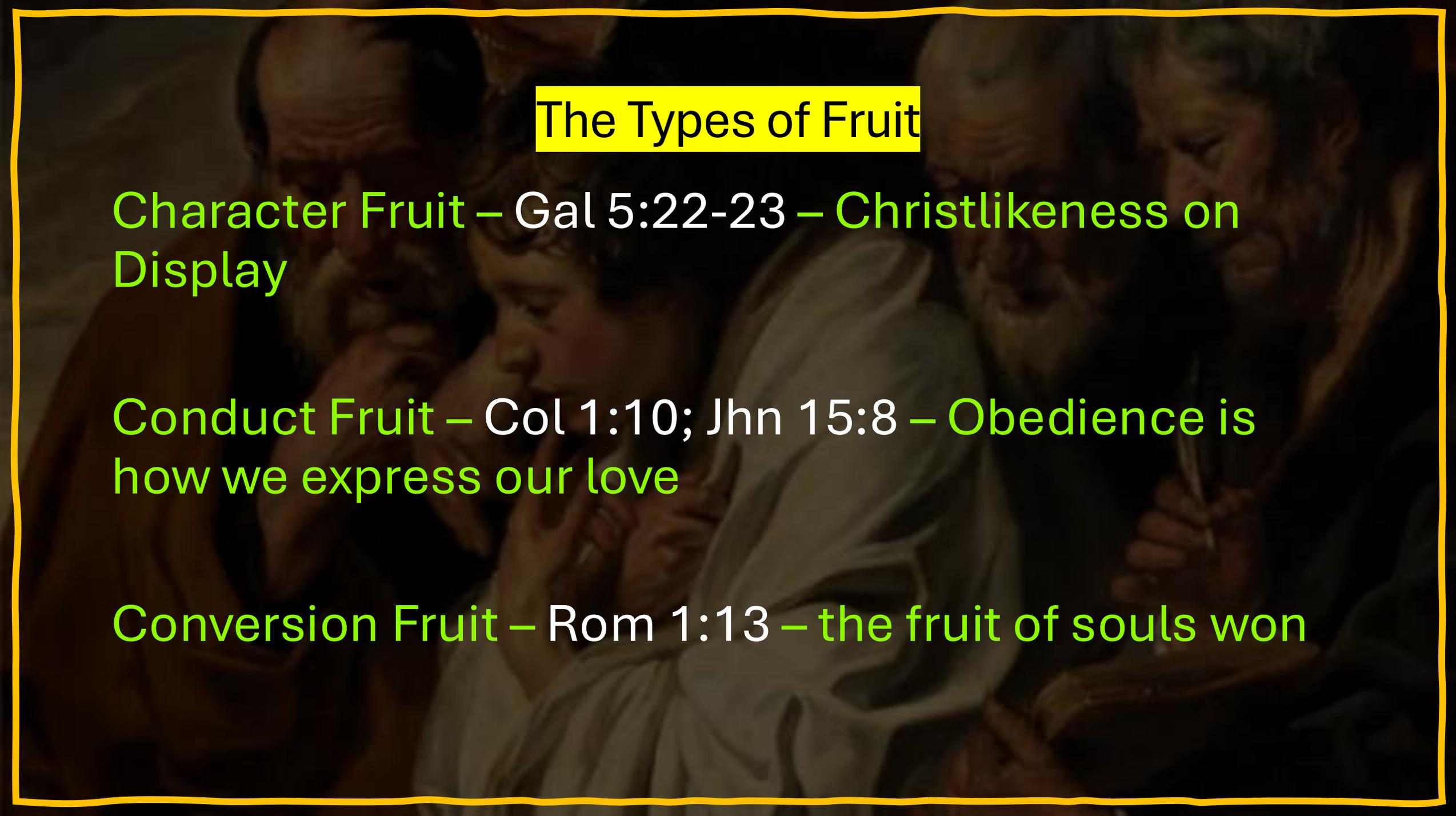
A group of people, including a central figure in white robes, are shown in a prayerful or contemplative pose. The image is dark and serves as a background for the text.

## The Good Soil – The Fruitful Heart

[Matthew 13:8, 23; Mark 4:8, 20; Luke 8:8, 15]

This heart has been broken up by repentance,  
watered by grace, and cleared of thorns by the Spirit.

God's not after perfection — He's after *receptivity*.

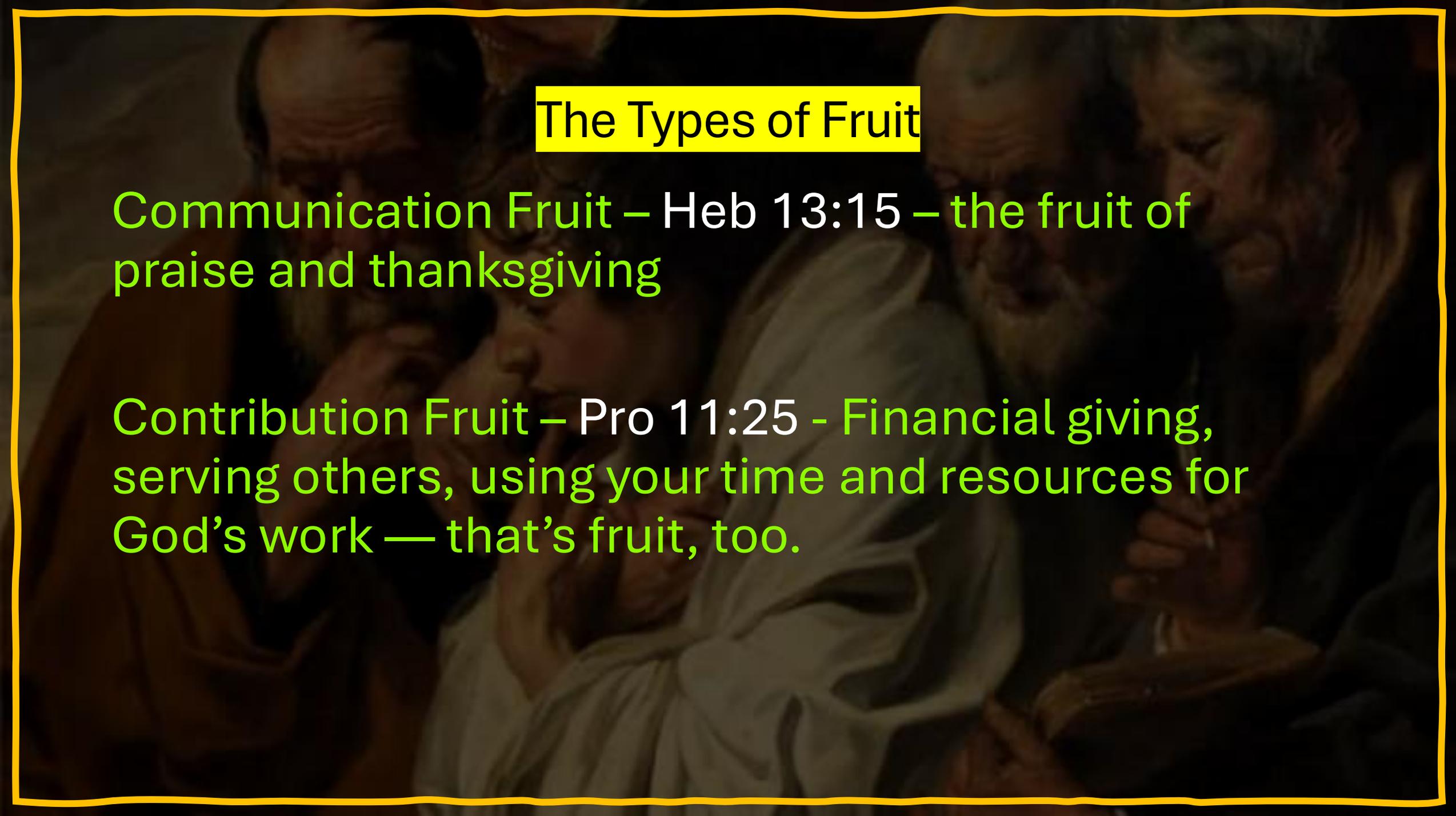


## The Types of Fruit

Character Fruit – Gal 5:22-23 – Christlikeness on Display

Conduct Fruit – Col 1:10; Jhn 15:8 – Obedience is how we express our love

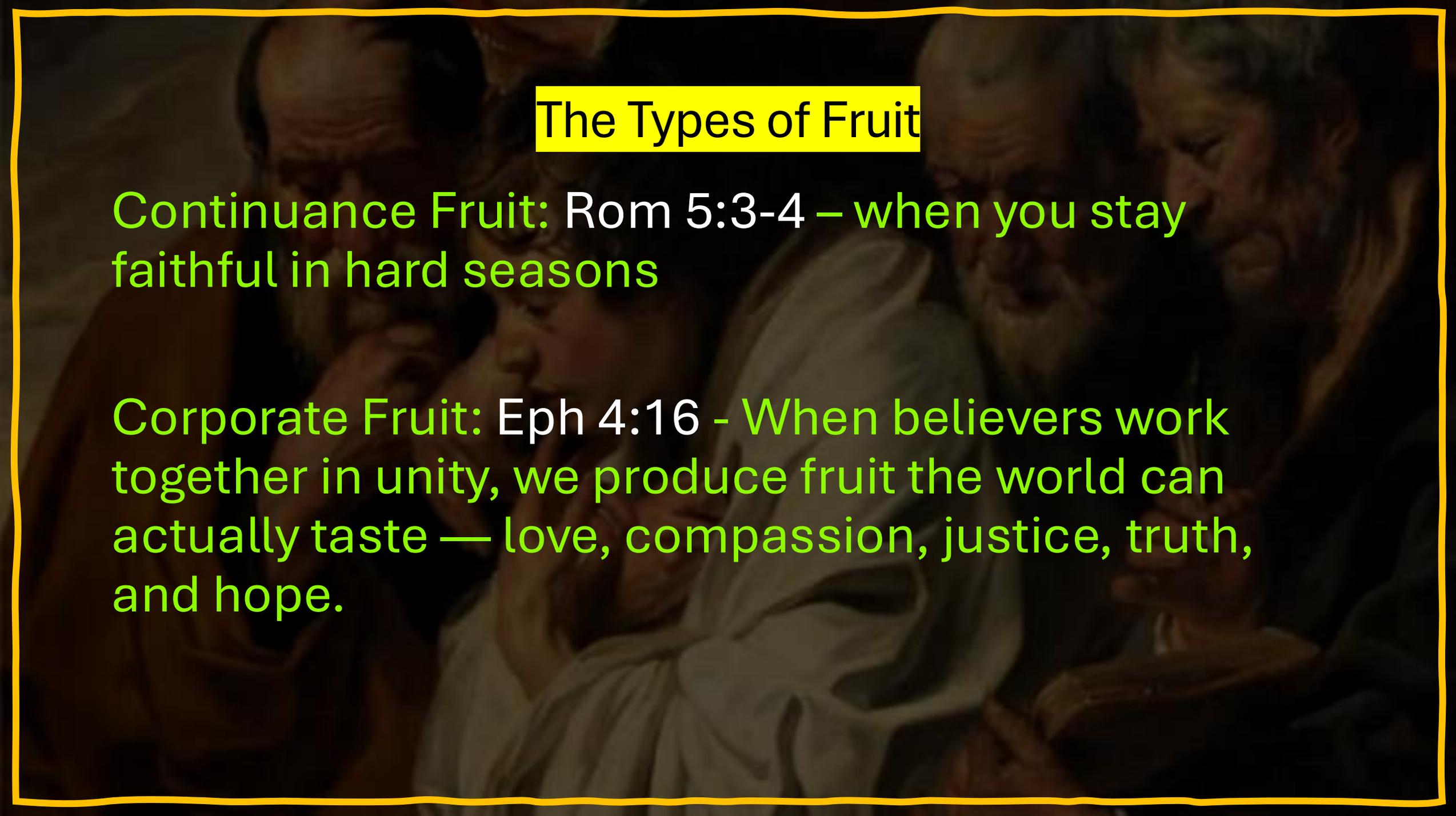
Conversion Fruit – Rom 1:13 – the fruit of souls won

A group of people, including men and women of various ages, are shown in a prayerful or worshipful posture. They are looking down with their hands clasped or raised in prayer. The image is dimly lit and serves as a background for the text.

## The Types of Fruit

Communication Fruit – Heb 13:15 – the fruit of praise and thanksgiving

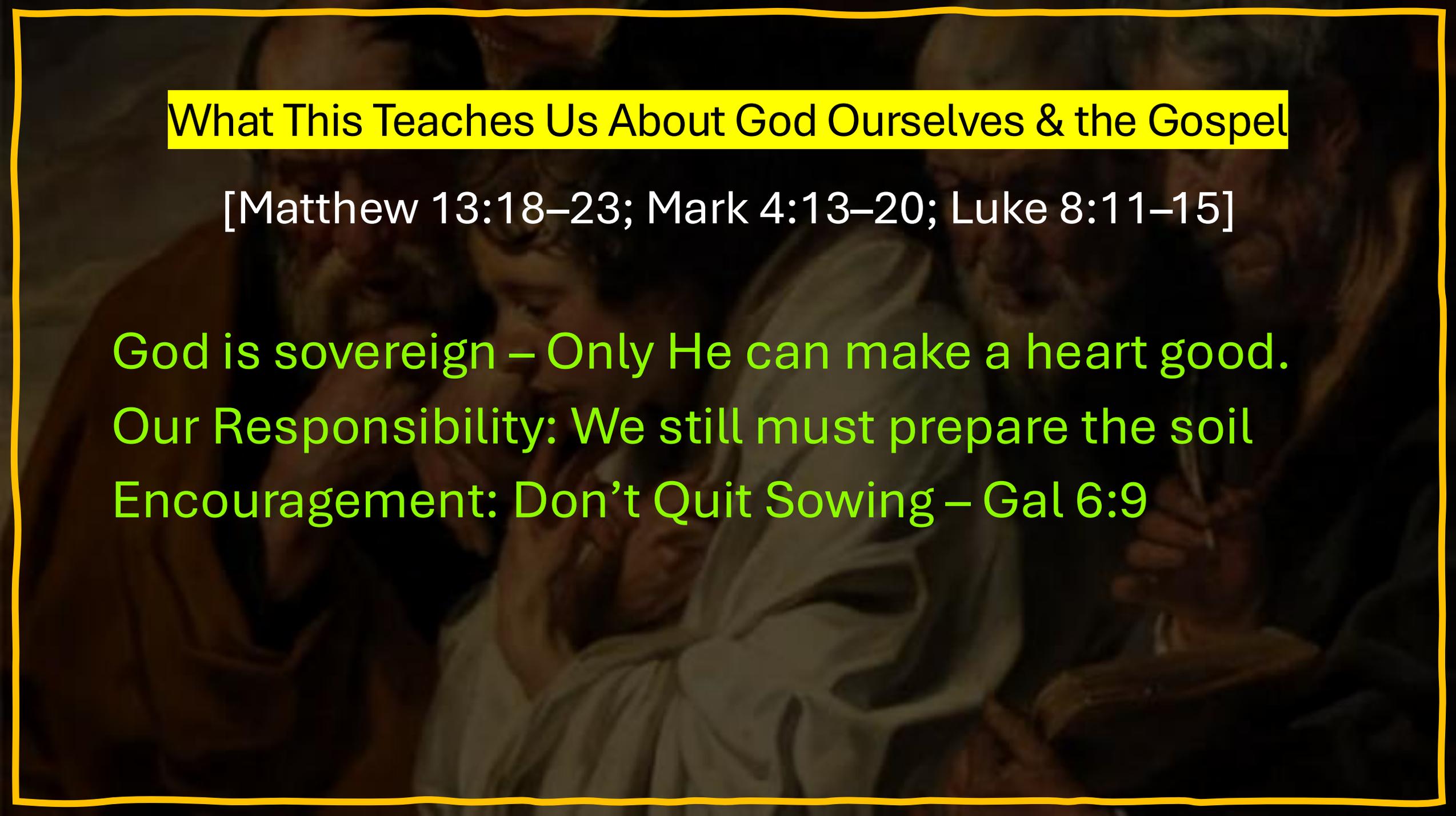
Contribution Fruit – Pro 11:25 - Financial giving, serving others, using your time and resources for God's work — that's fruit, too.

A group of people, including men and women of various ages, are gathered together in what appears to be a church or community setting. They are looking towards the center, and some are embracing each other. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, intimate atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background.

## The Types of Fruit

**Continuance Fruit:** Rom 5:3-4 – when you stay faithful in hard seasons

**Corporate Fruit:** Eph 4:16 - When believers work together in unity, we produce fruit the world can actually taste — love, compassion, justice, truth, and hope.



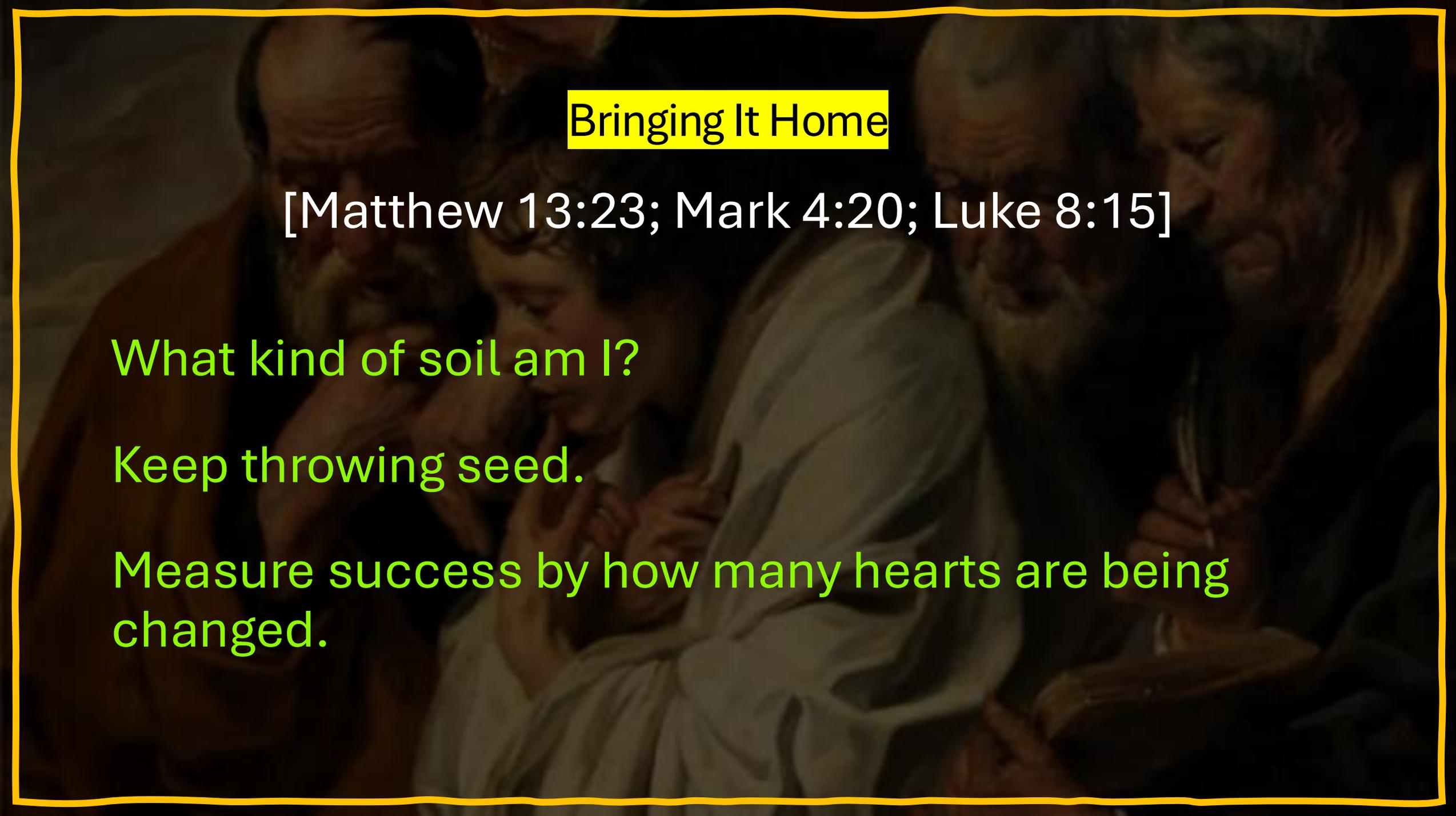
## What This Teaches Us About God Ourselves & the Gospel

[Matthew 13:18–23; Mark 4:13–20; Luke 8:11–15]

God is sovereign – Only He can make a heart good.

Our Responsibility: We still must prepare the soil

Encouragement: Don't Quit Sowing – Gal 6:9

A group of people, including a man in a white robe, looking at something together. The image is dark and serves as a background for the text.

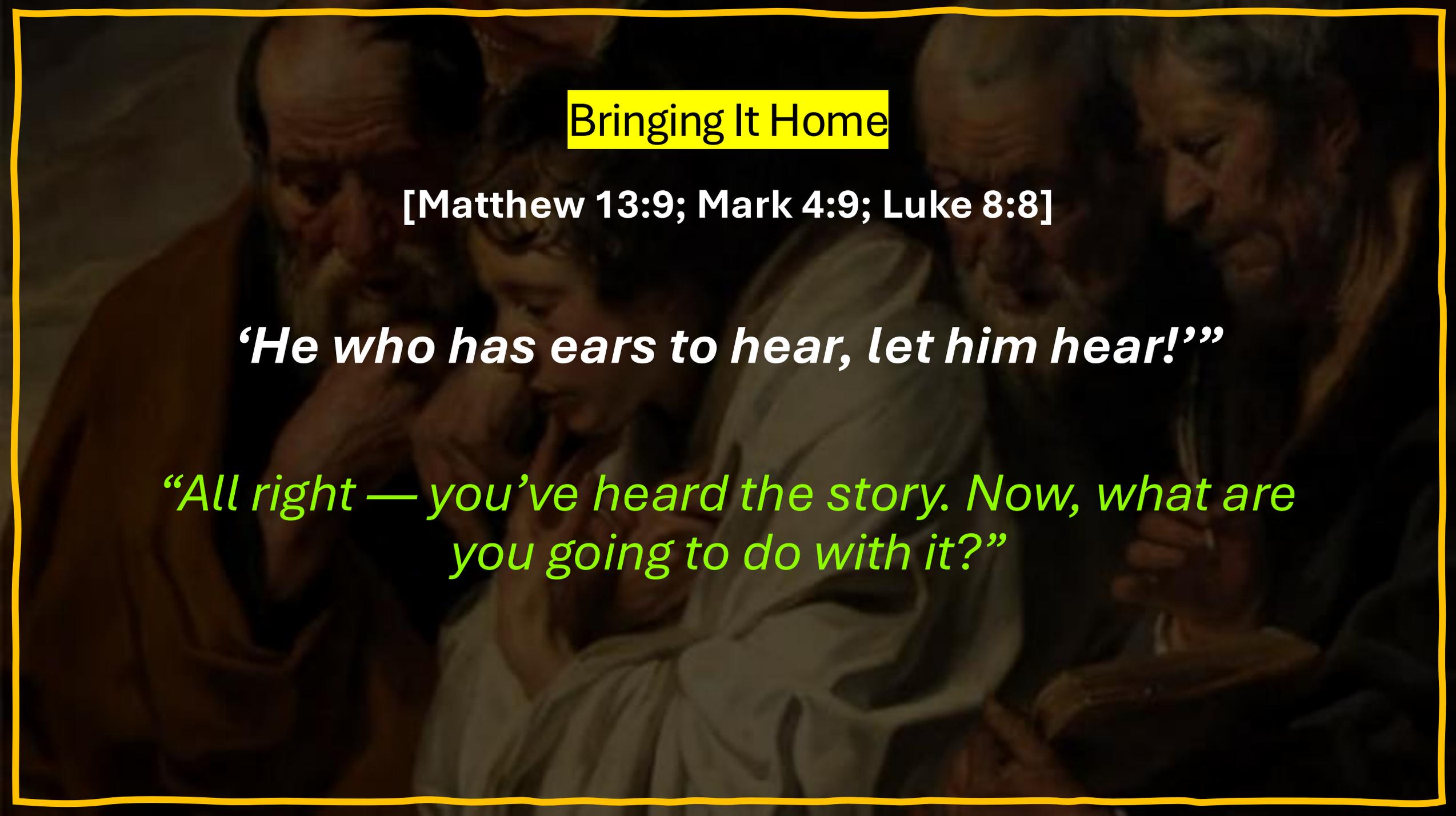
## Bringing It Home

[Matthew 13:23; Mark 4:20; Luke 8:15]

What kind of soil am I?

Keep throwing seed.

Measure success by how many hearts are being changed.



## Bringing It Home

[Matthew 13:9; Mark 4:9; Luke 8:8]

***‘He who has ears to hear, let him hear!’***

*“All right — you’ve heard the story. Now, what are you going to do with it?”*



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