# Make Church a Part of Your Life WEEKLY SERMONETTE



### "Listen"

### By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

ears to hear, let him hear." (Luke 4:9) After being leaders of His day, Christ teaching, through parables. It is an effective method of revealing truth to the those who desire to retain of God. A parable is a obedient Christians who are Lord's call upon their lives. comparison of objects for the purpose of teaching a spiritual truth.

One such parable is found in Mark 4: 1-9. The Lord explains the meaning of that parable to His disciples in Mark 4: 14-20.

The Lord opens the parable with "Listen!" He wants His listeners to attend carefully to what is about to be said. "A farmer went out to sow his seed." The background of the parable is rural Palestine. While seed was being broadcast, the sower would deliberately sow the seed to the very edge of his field. Some would necessarily fall on part of the walking path that was along the edge of the field, in rocky places, among thorns, and on good soil. The idea is the more seed that was sown the larger the harvest would

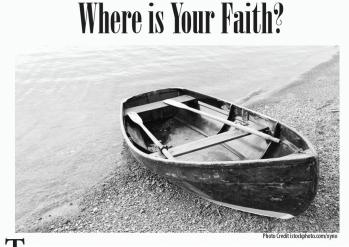
Jesus said, "He who has be. Jesus later explained that faithful to share His Word the seed was the Word of God. with family, friends, and co-scattering the seed, some While Christ went about workers and whomever will rejected by the religious teaching and preaching, He hear. All who claim Christ as was sowing the seeds of Savior and Lord are to get the employed a new form of God's Word. He taught in Word of God out to those in the the Synagogue, along lake world, whenever and however shores, on mountainsides, God makes the way for them they hear it, Satan comes in the homes of sinners, in to accomplish this. When you spiritual and at the same religious teachers' homes and see Christians sharing God's time concealing it from to all who traveled with Him. Word everywhere, they are falling on the walkways The Lord now sows the simply spreading the seeds of a hard heart to the things seeds of God's Word through the gospel in obedience to the

"As he [the farmer] was fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up... Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as and takes away the word that was sown in them." Seed is refused by the hard and well-trodden ground and is readily picked up by the birds. In like manner, the seed of God's Word falling upon a heart hardened and calloused by a life of sin and unbelief is quickly snatched away by Satan, urging the heart to not believe and be saved.

The seed that falls upon the hard ground and is snatched by the birds does not produce a harvest of grain. Nor does God's Word falling upon a hard heart produce eternal life

"Listen!" If you have no hunger for God's Word, if you have no desire to know more about Jesus or to know Himpersonally, then your heart is now a hard trodden-down pathway, and Satan is keeping the words of eternal life from you, keeping you from heaven's gates. Repent and seek Christ's teachings.

in a person.



There's a tale of a fisherman who fell from his boat and implored God to save him. As he bobbed in the water he refused help from several bystanders because he was so sure God was going to save him. He shouted that he didn't need their help as he disappeared beneath the water. Upon entering Heaven he asked, "God, why did you not save me?!" God replied, "But I sent several angels to help you and you refused their help. Where was your faith?" God asked the fisherman a good question. Where is your faith? Do you know where to find it? Visit your house of worship and learn of His promises. He wants to help you live a more peaceful and joyous life.

Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews 8.1-13

Hebrews 9.1-22 9.23-10.18 10.19-39 11.23-40 Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

Hebrews

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5	6	1	2	3	7	8	4	9
8	2	4	9	5	1	6	7	3
3	7	9	6	8	4	2	5	1
9	1	5	7	2	6	4	3	8
7	4	6	3	1	8	5	9	2
2	3	8	4	9	5	1	6	7
1	8	7	5	6	3	9	2	4
6	9	3	8	4	2	7	1	5
4	5	2	1	7	9	3	8	6

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"Sounds Familiar"														
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