

KEY THOUGHTS

- Our souls, the most important part of who we are, are also most often the quietest. Care for our soul is essential.
- If we've cared for our hardened soil (asking God to break it up), and cared for our depth of soil (asking God to make lasting change), we're still not there yet.
- In addition to softness (the hardened soil) and depth (the shallow soil), our souls need space (the weedy soil).
- Matthew 13:22 – "And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."
- Why we have weeds of the soul:
 - Weeding doesn't feel productive.
 - Weeding is meticulous (boring!).
 - We have to identify the weeds.
- In this parable, the weeds are the worry of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches.
- CAUTION: Pulling weeds can be painful

SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 13:1-23

PRACTICAL & REFLECT

- If I find in myself a weedy soil or soul, two strategic actions to take:
 - 1. Identify the worries you may have in your life. With a great deal of certainty, if we are worriers, we worry about things of this world. The soul yearns for the next. Focus on the next world and we'll find the worries of this one losing their grip.
 - 2. Observe the deceitfulness of riches. The problem is not necessarily our riches, it's the deceitfulness attached to them. Jesus' perspective on money is like resuscitation to our souls.
 - 3. Don't be afraid of the pain that may come with weeding.