

HomeGroup Discussion Guide

February 15-21, 2009

Key Idea of the Week:

Throughout the Scriptures, God gives ‘Law to the proud, grace to the humble.’ It seems that the proud hearts of men and women must be broken before God extends grace. If this is so, how can we foster meekness before God, and soften our own proud hearts to receive his tender mercies?

Discussion Guide:

Pray for God to soften your hearts and speak to you as you open His Word together.

Read Matthew 13:1-23.

Discuss

What is the difference between the ‘good soil’ and the other types that are not receptive to the good news?

What part do you think ‘meekness’ before God plays in preparing a heart for the seed?

Was there ever a time in your life when you were hard-hearted before God? If so, how responsive were you to His forgiveness?

What visible signs in a person’s life might display that someone has become ‘meek before God?’

Does it seem fair to you that Jesus did not speak plainly to everyone? Explain.

If it is true that God gives ‘Law to the proud, grace to the humble,’ does this enlighten the difficult portions of this passage to you? How?

Remember the seed that fell on the path? Is there a danger in explaining the good news of Jesus Christ’s forgiveness to someone who has not become ‘meek before God?’ Will their understanding of the gospel and the Christian life be healthy if they have not truly understood their own depravity and softened their hearts? Explain.

What might a Christian do to maintain a ‘meek’ posture before God over the long haul? What might you do this week?

Pray for courage to act on what you’ve learned this week and for any requests that may have been raised by members of the group.