



2017



SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH



Good Ground

Where do we **GROW** from here?

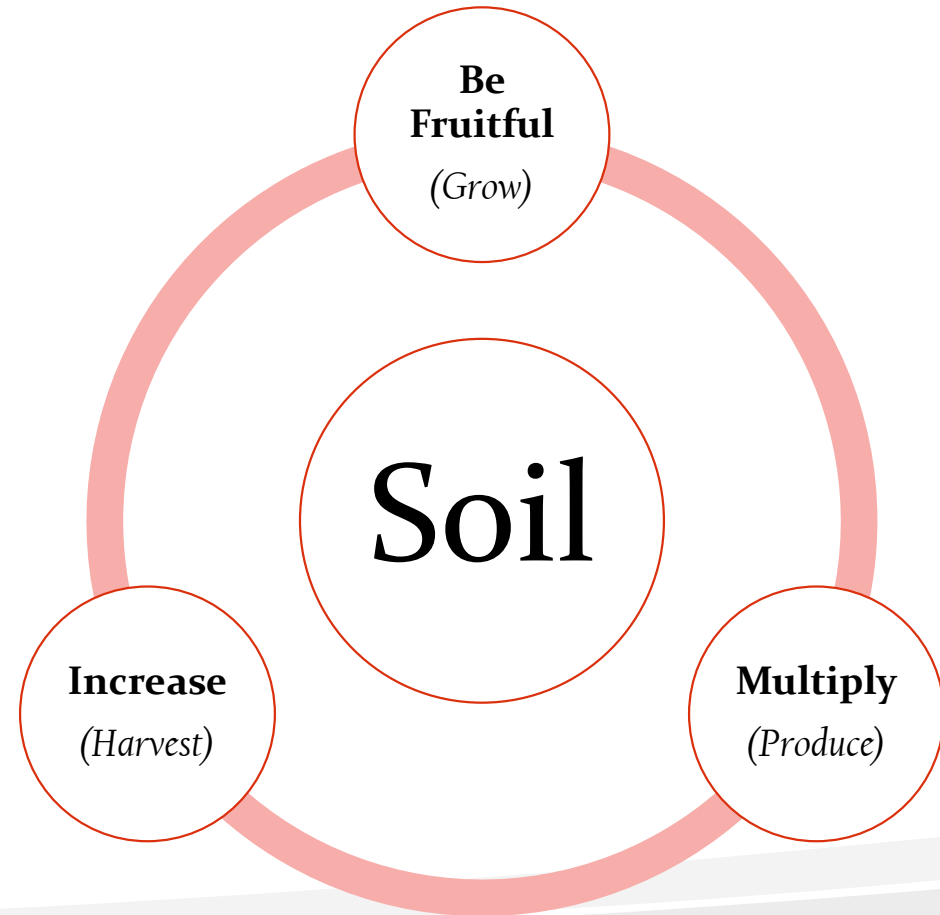


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What God intended at the beginning...

- **Be Fruitful:** Grow and develop the seed (God)/I placed in you (soil).
- **And Multiply:** Produce in abundance the Fruit from the seed (God)/I placed in you (soil. That Fruit produced contains more seed.
- **And Increase:** (God)/I will yield an exponential harvest from your Multiplied Fruitfulness.





Naturally, Good Ground is...

- Dirt (*soil*)
- Seed can be planted
- Seed can grow
- Roots run deep
- Seeds can produce
- Produce can yield more seed





Spiritually, Good Ground is...

- Dirt (*soil*)
- Seed can be planted
- Seed can grow
- Roots run deep
- Seeds can produce (*fruit*)
- Produce (*fruit*) can yield more seed





The Parable of the Sower ~ Mark 4: 1-9 (NRSV)

Jesus says...

Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. ² He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them:



The Parable of the Sower ~ Mark 4: 1-9 (NRSV)

Jesus says...

³ “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed **fell on the path**, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Other seed **fell on rocky ground**, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶ And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away.



The Parable of the Sower ~ Mark 4: 1-9 (NRSV)

Jesus says...

⁷ Other seed **fell among thorns**, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸ Other seed **fell into good soil** and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.” ⁹ And he said, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”



Type of Ground (Soil)

Ground Types	Pros	Cons
Path (v.4)	Dirt (Soil)	Hard and compacted Trampled upon Seed cannot be planted
Rocky (v.5)	Dirt (Soil) Seed can be planted Some initial seed growth	No depth, too shallow Scorch No root, withered away Seed cannot produce
Among Thorns (v.7)	Dirt (Soil) Seed can be planted Seed can grow	Choked by root rivalry Seed cannot produce



Types of Ground (Soil)

Good Ground

(v.9)

- Dirt (*soil*)
- Seed can be planted
- Seed can grow
- Roots run deep
- Seed can produce fruit/grain
- Fruit can yield more seed

2017



Has it been
fruitful?



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Grow from here?



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