

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

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'To know Christ and make Him known'



"Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

(Mark 4:20)

07

9AM

9AM Pastor Bill

Septem-

"The Parable of the Four Soils"
Mark 4:1-20

Thought for the Week

DISTRACTION WILL COST YOU EVERYTHING

Read parables. Do you understand them? Of course, Jesus explains the parable of the soils (Mark 4:13-20). But what about the lamp or the seeds? These stories sound simpler than they are. We won't really get them unless we are paying attention.

And we have Bibles! None of Jesus's original hearers had ever heard these parables before. They weren't written down so they could be read over and over, have their grammatical structure examined, and be conveniently cross-referenced with other Scriptures. The first hearers heard these stories once. If they weren't paying attention, they would miss the kingdom. That's costly distraction.

When Jesus explained to his disciples why he taught in parables, he said he did so — quoting portions of Isaiah 6:9-10 — that his hearers “may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven” (Mark 4:12). Here again, Jesus's hard-to-understand explanation illustrates his point: if we're not listening carefully, we'll miss what he's saying.

Is God really telling riddles so that people won't understand? No and yes. Jesus told the parables to reveal spiritual mysteries of the kingdom, and he really wanted people to understand them. That's why he said, “If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear” and “Pay attention.” But his revelatory method tested the spiritual wakefulness and earnestness of the hearers. Those who were listening to really hear would hear. But the spiritually dull and distracted would not. Jesus wanted to give the kingdom to the former, not the latter. Those who would not pay attention would reveal their spiritual dullness — dullness that has serious consequences: missing the kingdom of God.

—Jon Bloom, Desiring God website

Prayer Points

- Pray for those in our church family who are unwell: Len C, Ian R & Mal R
- Pray for Trist F and Kat C as they travel to Bangladesh with Homes of Hope international
- Praise God that through Christ every sin can be forgiven (Mark 3:28)
- Pray for our elders and deacons, as they each play the part God has given as leaders in our church. Pray for joy, fruitfulness, wisdom, and unity
- “Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments. Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word” (Psalm 119:73-74)

What's on?

MONDAY

5PM Walking Soccer

TUESDAY

9:30AM Playgroup

WEDNESDAY

9AM Prayer Meeting
7PM Alpha

THURSDAY

9AM Quilters/Craft

FRIDAY

9:30AM Playgroup
4PM Kids Ignite

Birthdays

9Th Sue Roberts &
Yan Perumal,
10th Brian Scales



If you would like to know more about our Home Groups, contact our coordinator
Beth Pfeffer : 0449 584 284

LADIES OP SHOP CRAWL & LUNCH

Don't forget ladies that the op shop crawl is this coming Saturday (**Saturday 13th September, 8.30am-2pm**). The ladies will be meeting at the church, and will then car pool to 4 stops in Maroochydore. From there, they will then head to Cafe 63 under Spotlight for lunch, returning to the church by 2pm.

Please text Jess 0420 625 463 if you think you are coming so we can book a table for lunch

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is approaching fast, so men, put this one in your calendars. 27th September, and will be held in the church hall. Sign-on sheet in the foyer, \$10 per person.

