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G O S P E L O F

# MARK

A JOURNEY OF FOLLOWING JESUS

“Growing Like a Seed”  
by Pastor Dan Stockum



GOSPEL OF

# MARK

A JOURNEY OF FOLLOWING JESUS

## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>13</sup> And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? <sup>14</sup> The sower sows the word.

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>15</sup> And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>16</sup> And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup> And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while;

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## Mark 4:13-34

then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

<sup>18</sup> And others are the ones sown among thorns.

They are those who hear the word,

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>19</sup> but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>20</sup> But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>21</sup> And he said to them,  
“Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket,  
or under a bed, and not on a stand?”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>22</sup> For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. <sup>23</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>24</sup> And he said to them,

“Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you.

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>25</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given,  
and from the one who has not,  
even what he has will be taken away.”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>26</sup> And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>28</sup> The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>30</sup> And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it?”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>31</sup> It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth,

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

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## Mark 4:13-34

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup> He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

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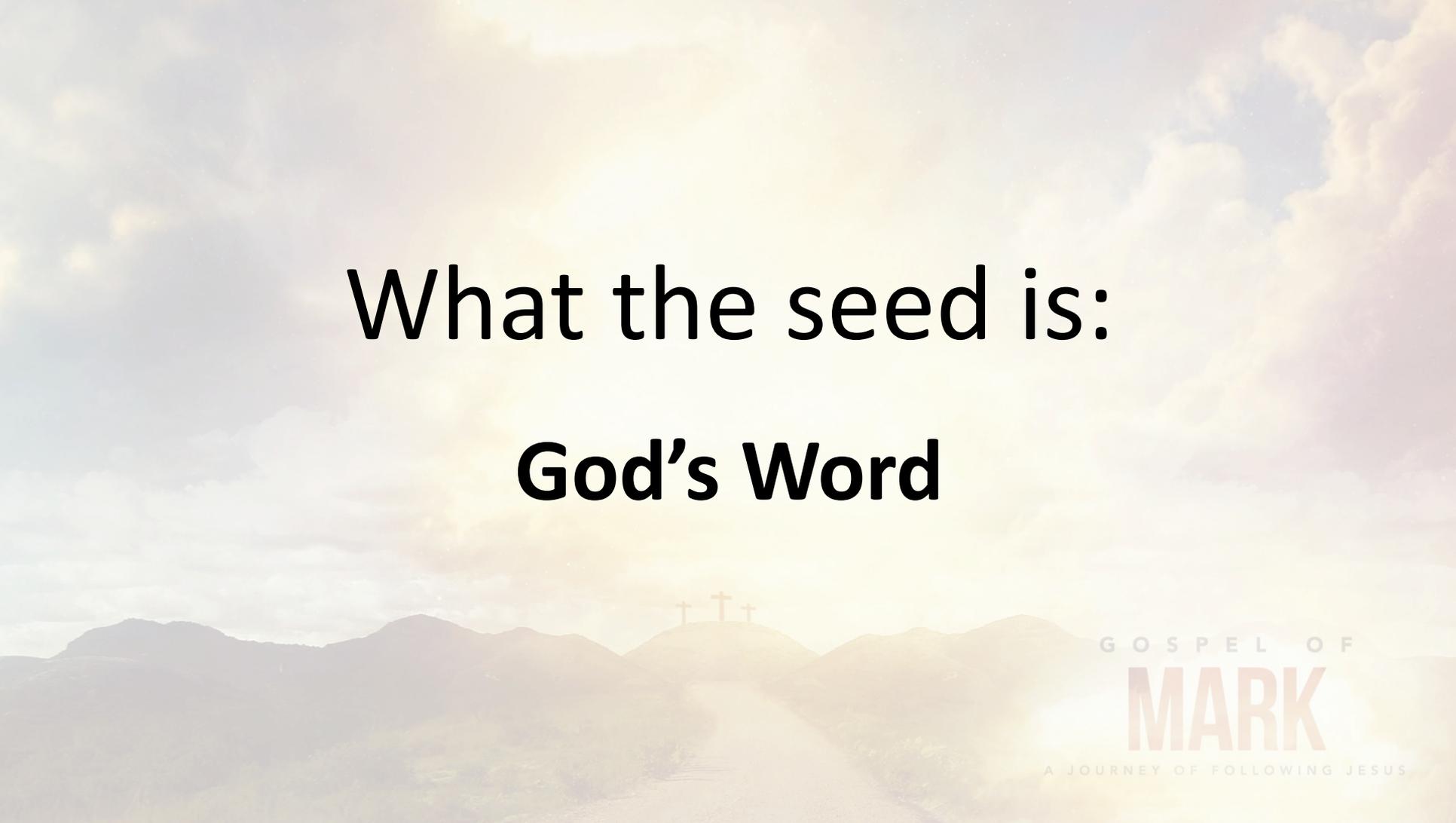
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A landscape with a dirt road leading to three crosses on a hill under a cloudy sky. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The road is in the foreground, leading towards a hill in the distance where three crosses are visible. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, and the overall atmosphere is serene and spiritual.

# What the seed is:

## **God's Word**

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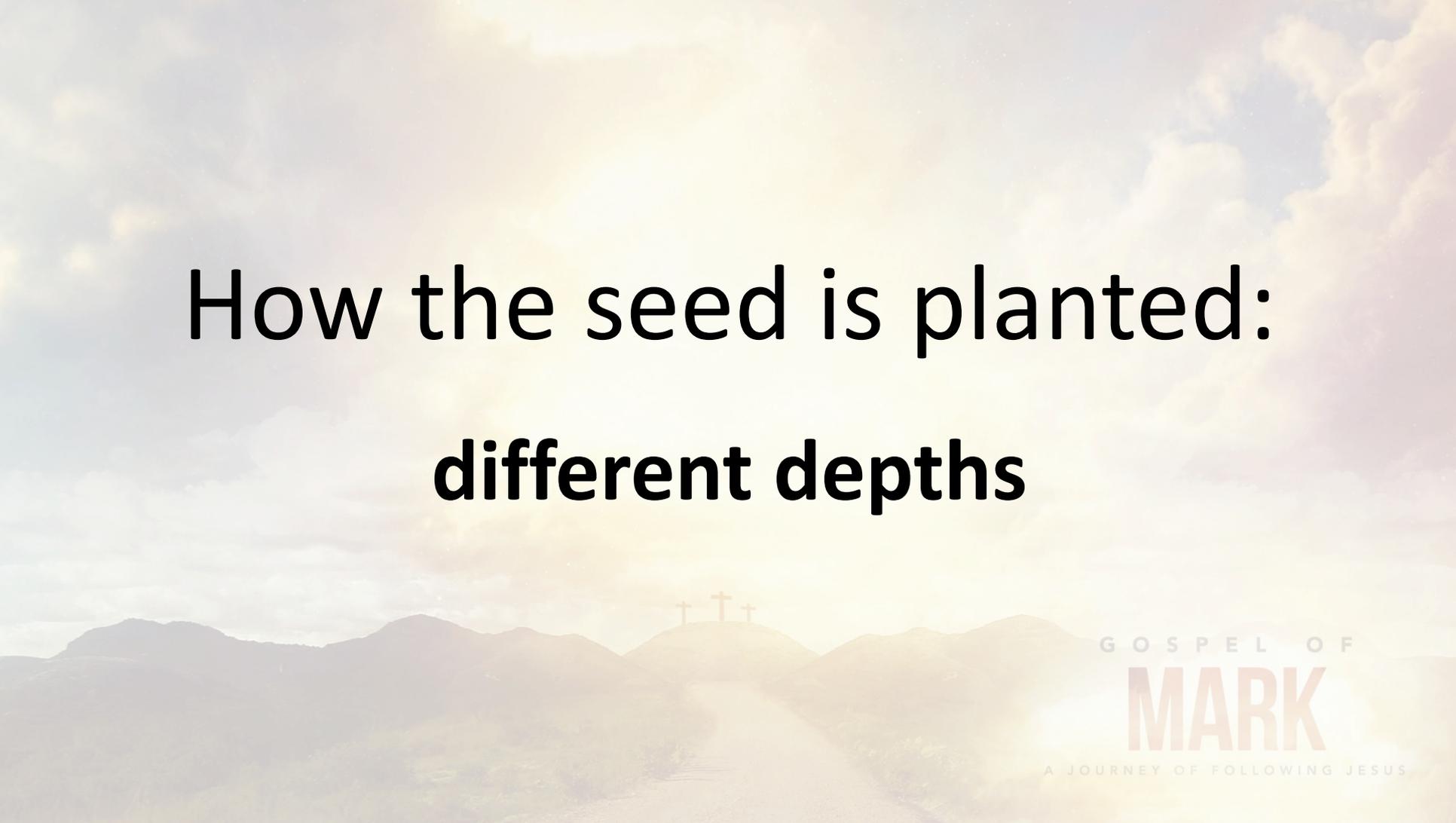
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A landscape with a dirt road leading to three crosses on a hill under a cloudy sky. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The road is in the foreground, leading towards a hill in the distance where three crosses are visible. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

# How the seed is planted: **different depths**

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## Matthew 10:17-19

<sup>17</sup> Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.

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## Matthew 10:17-19

<sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, **do not be anxious** how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour.

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## **1 Peter 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

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## 1 Peter 4:12-13

<sup>13</sup> But **rejoice** insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

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## Hebrews 10:32-34

<sup>32</sup> But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings,

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## Hebrews 10:32-34

<sup>33</sup> sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated.

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## Hebrews 10:32-34

<sup>34</sup> For you had compassion on those in prison, and **you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property**, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.

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What difference does it make:  
**all the difference for everyone**

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