WORSHIP (15 MINS)

Venue: Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

Venue: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or Via Online,

Testimonies: "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week?"

Ask someone to do the opening prayer.

WELCOME (10 MINS)

Welcome guests/first-time visitors.

Ice-breaker: What fuels you in the morning? What moves you to face the day? (ex. prayer, exercise, coffee, big breakfast, shower, etc.?)

WORD(30-45 MINS)

Main Text: Read Luke 8:11-15 NLT

Intro: In reality, we all "run" and are motivated on what fills our hearts. From daily our choices, habits, priorities, relationships, and our decisions reflects who we are and our priorities. We sow seeds from the "soil" within us. For many, that soil is crowded with pressure, performance, social media, fear of missing out, the pursuit of validation, anxiety about the future, and fleeting pleasures.

We run on words that we sow. Our lives follow the voice shaping our lives with words, ideas, beliefs, and values that fill our hearts either from family, friends, coworkers, friends, news, TV, movies, social media, etc. are like seeds that we allow to be sown.

This parable reminds us that God's Word is not only the seed we receive but also the seed we are called to sow in our spheres of influence. The question is, do we have the right kind of soil (our hearts)? If not, how do we prepare our hearts to receive, nurture, and bear fruit from God's Word?

1. The Word needs an honest and good heart - v. 15

The Parable of the Sower represents 4 kinds of hearts:

- a. The Footpath represents a closed mind, someone who hears God's Word but refuses to let it in. The truth never sinks in the heart.
- b. The Rocky or Shallow Soil speaks of those who receive the Word quickly, but don't reflect deeply or commit. When life gets hard, their faith gives up.
- c. The Thorny Ground is a picture of a crowded life, so full of busyness and distractions that God's Word gets pushed aside. These distractions aren't always bad things, but sometimes good things can become the enemy of what's best.
- d. The Good Soil is a heart that is open, sincere, and ready. Just like a seed needs rich soil to grow, God's Word needs a heart that listens, reflects, and responds—whether reading or hearing.
- Q: Which of the kinds of soil/ground are you? Why did you say so?
- Q: What situations contributed to consider that choice?
- Q: What is one "thorn" you need to remove in your heart this month?
- 2. A good person plants the Word in their heart through daily meditation Read Joshua 1:8

Before Israel could possess the Promised Land, God spoke to Joshua to prepare his heart and show him the right way to lead His people toward their divine mission. God's instruction to Joshua was simple yet profound: study, meditate on, and apply the Word He had given through Moses to ensure success.

In the same way, we need to take time each day to read and reflect on Scripture, allowing it to take root, shape our thinking, and nourish our faith. We need to keep what we read and hear in our hearts and minds and think over it until we receive understanding of God's Word.

Q: Is meditation of God's Word part of our everyday life?

- Q: Is there something that keeps us from daily meditation of God's Word?
- Q: What habit can help you meditate on God's Word day and night?

3. A good person seeks not merely information, but transformation that results in obedience – Read V.15 - "And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest."

Remember, what we sow is what we reap. When we make our hearts fertile soil for God's Word and daily feed our new self with His truth, we will see a harvest, a life that mirrors Christ and leaves a lasting impact on others.

Read Hebrews 4:12a "For the word of God is living and powerful..."

The Word of God is alive and powerful, capable of producing a huge harvest of changed lives, but all God is looking for are hearts who are open and willing to let God work in our lives. The choice is ours to make.

- Q: What is one area of your life where you feel prompted to take action or make a change?
- Q: What does it mean to follow God wholeheartedly in a world full of distractions and compromise?

Conclusion:

Jesus' parable teaches the same truth: Our harvest reveals our habit. Our fruit reveals our heart. Our future will reveal what we feed inside. God is searching for the right heart.

If we want to have a heart that's soft and ready to receive God's Word, we have to protect it. That means being careful about what we let influence us things in the world or in our own desires that can pull us away from God and give our old self the advantage.

A good heart is one that stays open to God and lets His Word shape how we think, live, and love. Today, we need to decide: Will you be the soil (the heart) that resists Him or the soil (the heart) that receives Him?

WORK(15 MINS)

Application

- 1. Find a partner. Ask what you can pray for him/her then pray for each other.
- 2. Pray and prepare a Hit List (max. of 5-10 names of family, relatives, friends, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, etc.) of possible people you desire to invite in the next life group gathering.