

Women's Bible Study
Discussion Questions

Matthew 13

1. In Matthew 13:1-17 we see that huge crowds are drawn to Jesus. However, Chapters 11-12 have already shown us an increasing division among the people who watch and listen. How does this first parable illustrate the reason for this division?

2. In Matthew 13:18-23, Jesus explains the first parable to his disciples privately and through Matthew's telling, to us. Can you think of circumstances in your own life when one or more of these heart conditions described you? Is it possible for good soil to still have tree roots, stones, and hard dry patches?

3. In verses 24-33, Matthew shares three more parables that Jesus told the crowd. What is similar about the messages of The Mustard Seed and The Yeast?

4. Read verses 36-50. In the house with the disciples, Jesus shares two intimate parables of joy at finding a lost or hidden treasure. Have you ever had a time when you realized Jesus was more precious than anything else? If you are comfortable doing so, please share this experience with your group.

5. Why does Jesus share his explanations and more parables privately with the disciples? How is this the same or different from approaches you've experienced with good teachers?

6. After reading verses 51-52, describe in your own words if you think this is a good self-portrait of the apostle Matthew.