

Seed on the
Rocky Places...

1. Rocks

³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ... ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. – Matthew 13:3,5-6 (NIV)

Notice:
The **Sower** is the same. The seed is the **same**. The different results depend on the soils, how we **respond** to the Sower and his seed¹

...
¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ... ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. – Matthew 13:18,20 (NIV)

Emotions are great for the **dashboard**, awful in the **driver’s seat**.

¹ Michael Green, [The Message of Matthew: The Kingdom of Heaven](#), The Bible Speaks Today (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001), 156.

A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. – Proverbs 18:2 (ESV)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. – Proverbs 3:5 (ESV)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever! – Psalm 111:10 (ESV)

²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. – Matthew 13:21 (NIV)

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. – Matthew 5:11 (NIV)

²⁻⁴ *Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don’t try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way. – James 1:2-4 (The Message)*

Notes: _____

2. The **Remnants**

Remain in Me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in Me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. – John 15:4-6 (NIV)

Jesus **wants** you connected to Him and He to you.

3. The **Roots**

When I think of the wisdom and scope of His plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth— ¹⁶ that out of His glorious, unlimited resources He will give you the mighty inner strengthening of His Holy Spirit. ¹⁷ And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in Him.

May your roots go down deep into the soil of God’s marvelous love; ¹⁸⁻¹⁹ and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God’s children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully

know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God Himself.

²⁰ Now glory be to God, who by His mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—ininitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. ²¹ May He be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of His master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ. – Ephesians 3:15-21 (TLB)

Notes: _____

Questions for reflection...

- What/Who are you rooted in?
- Are you regimented in religion or rooted in relationship?
- What is the depth of your soil?
- Are you letting feelings lead you?

Notes: _____

Next Sunday, 2/25 – Seed Among Thorns

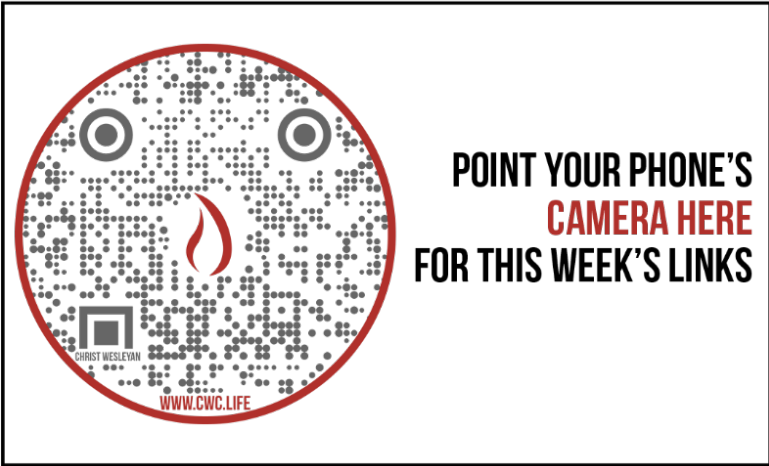
Milton Campus: Pastor Branden Mestach
Sunbury Campus: Pastor Billy Robel

Milton: 9:00am | 10:45am | 5:00pm
Sunbury: 9:00am | 11:00pm | 5:00pm
Online: 9:00am | 10:45am | 7:00pm

Have a question? Want to take the message further?
E-mail mike.sweigard@cwv.life with a question to be included on the Dive Deep Podcast

Have you started, or want to begin, a relationship with Jesus?...

Text: IChooseJesus (all one word) to 570-273-0088



Giving & Attendance Update

Giving last Sunday: 85.7%
Giving year to date: 83%
Weekend Attendance: 2,050
Salvations to date: 98 | Baptisms to date: 111

Upcoming Happenings:

40 Days of Prayer & Fasting | Feb 20-Mar 31

40 Days of Prayer and Fasting begin Tuesday, February 20th. Commitment cards will be handed out in service and are on our website. Additional materials will also be available at each exit.

Family Movie Night!!! | March 8th

Elementary kids and families, join us March 8th for a Family Movie Night at White Deer Elementary, where we'll be showing The Super Mario Bros. movie. Come at 6 PM to get your free popcorn and water and enjoy the show!

There will be a similar event on March 22, but more details on that are to come later.

Looking for a way to Serve at CWC?

Part of giving and growing at CWC is finding a place where you can be plugged in. Check out our [serving connections form](#) to see how you can get involved at your campus! This isn't a full-blown commitment to serve yet, but an easy way for us to connect and provide you with more information about these opportunities to be a vital part of Christ Wesleyan.