

# DIRT



THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

*#mc3dirt*



Discussion  
Gu'de

**"WEEDY DIRT"**

*04/17/16*



## *The Point:*

*Weedy Dirt: Don't Be Distracted, This World Isn't the Goal*

## Discussion Generators

PLEASE share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group!

- ➔ God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our "antennae up", to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past week.
- What has stood out to you so far from the *Dirt* Point series?
- If you have the ability, watch this short (~4mins) YouTube playlist\*: [tinyurl.com/mc3WeedyDirt](http://tinyurl.com/mc3WeedyDirt). Do you have any stories about being at a game, or on a team the scored on their own goal?
- ➔ Read Mark 4:3-8, 14-20. Reviewing the Point, what was the problem with the seeds planted in weedy dirt (v. 7)?
- ➔ What did the weeds represent (v. 18-19)?
- ➔ Jesus explains that sometimes the message gets choked out because people hear the message, but focus on the wrong goal—the world.
- ➔ Read 1 Corinthians 3:18-20. What are some ways that "the world" has affected our thinking as Christ-followers?

*\*while the videos are completely family-friendly, I can't vouch for any ads that may come up*

- How does Romans 12:2 tie together the concept of “changing our thinking” with last week’s idea of “growing deep roots”?
- ➔ Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 . What are some ways that “the world” has affected our fighting as Christ-followers?
- ➔ Read 1 John 2:15-17. What are some ways that “the world” has affected our focus as Christ-followers?
- Read James 4:4. These are STRONG words about what happens if we love the world. Why do you think James says this so intensely?
- If time permits, as a group summarize the following from “Tending the Soil of the Story”\* in the Point on Sunday:
  - Give Them Perspective (1 Timothy 6:7)
  - Give Them Space (Luke 9:23-25)
  - Give Them to God (1 Corinthians 3:8)
- ➔ Last week we shared and prayed for distractions that are hindering our growth with Jesus. This week we are going to share specifically about “weeds” (which are *bad distractions*) that keep us from making a difference for Jesus. Share ONE way that EACH of the following has choked you. *How* have you been choked by:
  - ...Keeping Up? (Mark 4:19a)
  - ...Getting More? (Mark 4:19b)
  - ...Wanting the World? (Mark 4:19c)

\*someone who was in the Point may need to explain this

## Bible Verses

**Mark 4:3-8, 14-20 (NIV)**\*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain...

...Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

**1 Corinthians 3:18-20 (NIV)**\*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight...

**Romans 12:2 (NLT)**

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)**\*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds...

**1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)**\*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you...

**James 4:4 (NIV)**

You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.