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Online Missionary Helpful Hints Sowing Seeds



As we begin the discipleship journey with our Contacts it's important to set our **expectations**. You may find that only a **few** become engaged, **growing** disciples despite you sowing seeds generously among **many**.

The **parable of the Sower**, as taught by Christ, helps us prepare for and understand this journey.

The Path

Those who hear but don't understand

*"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and **does not understand it**, the evil one comes [like a bird] and **snatches away** what has been sown in his heart..."*

—Matthew 13:19



Through **question-driven** discussion, you can help avoid the hazard of the birds. Pray the **Holy Spirit** will bring **understanding**.

The Rocky Soil

Those who joyfully receive the Good News, but make no true commitment

*"...this is the one who hears the word and immediately **receives it with joy**, yet he has **no root**... when tribulation arises, he **falls away**."*

—Matthew 13:20-21



Help **deepen** your disciples' **roots** by being **in the Word together** and providing **support** through trials.

The Thorns

Those who understand, but do not bear fruit

*"...this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world **choke** it, and it proves **unfruitful**."*

—Matthew 13:22



Some Contacts may be caught up in **worldly cares** and not bear fruit. They might **turn away** or never fully mature.

The Good Soil

Those who understand and bear fruit.

*"As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who **hears** the word and **understands** it. He **indeed bears fruit**."*

—Matthew 13:23



These are the Contacts who **grow richly** in faith, **sharing** it with others and **making disciples** themselves.

The Bible tells us that **not all** who hear the Word will **understand**, come to **faith**, or **share** it with others. Most Contacts won't continue in discipleship with you, but may **continue on** somewhere else.

Be encouraged!

The work you do **prepares the soil** of their hearts for the seeds to grow. Some will come to you already as **good soil**, ready to grow in Christ.

Your efforts **make a difference** in the Kingdom. Keep **sowing** the seeds and **trust** God's plan for the **harvest**.

