

GET IN THE GAME: WEEK 1- Good Receiver

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

1. What was your favourite childhood game? Explain.
2. What sports do you enjoy watching? Why?

WORD

This 4-week series is designed to be used during iServe month. Each sermon within the series communicates the importance of “Getting in the Game”—serving Jesus—rather than just drifting along the sidelines.

Matthew 13:1-9 (NIV)

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2 Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 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. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Listeners must accept (“catch”) the Word of God and let it take root in their life. In this parable, Jesus describes four different types of “receivers.”

1. **The Intercepted** (vs. 19). An interception or intercept is a move in football that happens when a player on the defensive team catches a ball from the quarterback instead of the intended receiver. When this is done, the player's team who had caught the ball, would gain possession of it. **Matthew 13:19 (NIV)** *When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.*

2. **The Butter-Finger** (vss. 20-21), Once upon a time, there was a professional football player who got the nickname "Butterfingers" because, in his first pro season, he kept dropping the ball. **Matthew 13:20-21 (NIV)** *20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 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.*

3. **The Fumbler (vs. 22)**, A fumble in gridiron football occurs when a player who has possession and control of the ball loses it before being downed (tackled), scoring, or going out of bounds. **Matthew 13:22 (NIV)** *The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.*

4. **The Dependable (vs. 23)**. Which one are you? **Matthew 13:23 (NIV)** *"But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.*

DISCUSSION

Which one of the above describes the status of your faith in serving God?

How can you grow in these area/s?

WORD

“Getting in the Game”—and serve Jesus—rather than just drifting along the sidelines. *We are not drifters (sideline), (also called along the shore) that missed to accept His word. Someone is snatching the seed (word). Verse 19 also in John 10:10, Intercepted means “*The thief comes only to steal...* The enemy comes to steal the seed (word of God) by putting seeds of doubt in your soul. We belong to God and he wants to steal you or rob you from God.

*We are not drifters (sideline), (also called along the shore) that cause us to keep dropping his word, and when that happens, the enemy will take his opportune time to kill that word that produce joy. Not only that but also to

kill the plans of God and who you are in Christ Jesus. John 10:10 *“The thief comes only to steal, **kill**...*

*We are not drifters (sideline), (also called along the shore) that cause us to fumble the word of God. *“The thief comes only to steal, kill and **destroy**.”* He comes to destroy our purpose, destroy our destiny, destroy the relationship towards God and the most important is destroy the future bloodline of yours. That’s the goal of the enemy.

If we are not busy serving Christ Jesus, who is busy doing his work? Satan , the enemy of our God and we are falling on his bait. *Matthew 13:25*

But we are “THE DEPENDABLES” (vs. 23). *Matthew 13:23a (NIV)*
”But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it...

DISCUSSION

What keeps you busy? Is your busyness helping you grow in your faith?

LIFE APPLICATION

When we serve Christ, we will become...

***Yielding Receiver:** *Matthew 13:23 “But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown.*

***A Wise Receiver.** *Luke 6:47 “As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like.”*

***A Blessed Receiver.** *Revelation 1:3 “Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.”*

DISCUSSION

What can you learned from this week message and how are you going to apply these in your day to day life?

VERSE TO MEDITATE ON

Luke 6:47-49 NIV

46 Why do you call me, Lord, Lord and do not do what I say? As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. 49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

PRAYER

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this week.



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