Failure to Launch

When will I grow up?

Pastor Craig Sweeney | November 15, 2026

The Goal = Mature in Christ

Thread: So, where is your faith?

"One day Jesus told a story in the form of a parable to a large crowd that had gathered from many towns to hear him: 'A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds ate it. Other seed fell among rocks. It began to grow, but the plant soon wilted and died for lack of moisture. Other seed fell among thorns that grew up with it and choked out the tender plants. Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop that was a hundred times as much as had been planted'! When he had said this, he called out, 'Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.' His disciples asked him what this parable meant. He replied, 'You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God. But I use parables to teach the others so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled: When they look, they won't really see. When they hear, they won't understand.'" **Luke 8:4-10 NLT**

"This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is God's word. The seeds that fell on the footpath represent those who hear the message, only to have the devil come and take it away from their hearts and prevent them from believing and being saved." **Luke 8:11-12 NLT**

Two Implications:

1) **"*Accusers*" tactic: This name is a clue as to HOW the Kingdoms' seed will be stolen.**

2) **The seed was right there!**

A significant trait separating mature from immature: CURIOSITY

"The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation." **Luke 8:13 NLT**

The plant is already God breathed. It's a kingdom plant growing.

This is a person, who in their immaturity, saw little or no value in deepening their faith/relationship with Christ.

"The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity." **Luke 8:14 NLT**

The plant is God breathed. It's a kingdom plant growing.

"*Cares": Anxiety, that brings disruption to the personality and the mind.*

Jesus added "*The pleasures of this life.*" They also rob us or DISTRACT us from maturing.

"And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest." **Luke 8:15 NLT**

Maturity is:

- Inviting deep roots. This is the posture of your heart. Only you can offer it.
- Developing Christlike character.
- Sifting through your motives for how you live your life.
- Putting yourself in God's path to SEE, HEAR and BELIEVE.
- TRUSTING Him, with your heart, mind, soul and strength.

Challenge:

- Are you inviting deep roots?
- Are you developing Christlike character?
- Are you sifting through your motives for how you live your life?
- Will you put yourself in God's path to SEE, HEAR and BELIEVE what He does?
- Are you trusting Him, with your heart, mind, soul and strength.

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