

January 24, 2021

The Common Thread
MARK: Upside Down Kingdoms

Community Group Questions

1. What were your general impressions and takeaways from the MARK video shown in this message?
2. In Jesus's Parable of the Sower, in what ways do we often think of our ourselves in the position of the sower (the one initiating) rather than the soil (the one receiving)?
3. Discuss **Proverbs 16:9 ESV**—"The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."
4. Discuss this quote: "The Seed Always Works; the Soil Does Not." What happened to the plants that grew in three out of the four different soils?
5. Discuss this quote: "3 Seeds Grew, but Only 1 was Fruitful." What does it mean to be fruitful in Christ's Kingdom? Why do we often worry about the one throwing the seed (the pastor, church leader, political leader, etc.) rather than the conditions of our own hearts?
6. Is it possible to be selectively isolated; that is, to have areas of your life open to Christ's upside down ways in the gospel and others that are not? Explain.
7. Discuss the upside down nature of this verse: "**Mark 10:45 ESV**—"45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."