

# What's Missing in the Church?

Martin Jones—February 5, 2011

# SERMON NOTES

## What's Missing in the Church? \_\_\_\_\_

*Matthew 13:18-23 NIV* <sup>18</sup>“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup>But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. <sup>22</sup>The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

### The Point...

- God wants HIS Word to go on, in, down, up and out.
- When God speaks, His word is designed to \_\_\_\_\_;  
the product is a \_\_\_\_\_ life.
- Transformation is the \_\_\_\_\_ outcome of God's word in a prepared heart.
- When unencumbered by the rocks that prevent roots and weeds that prevent fruit, God's word \_\_\_\_\_ by nature transform us.

### The Truth Is...

- The church is made up of many hearts who many times every week encounter the word of God that by nature should produce and transform.
- Individual transformed \_\_\_\_\_ should lead to a transformed church.

### Why is the church not transformed or transforming?

\_\_\_\_\_ : unreceptive soil

\_\_\_\_\_ : rocks preventing roots

\_\_\_\_\_ : weeds preventing fruit

# God's Transformational Word to Me: Transformation Inhibitors



Hardness:



Shallowness:



Distractions:



What are the hard, shallow, and distracting things preventing God from transforming my life?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Transformational Helps: **GET SPECIFIC** with God's word.

Is there a(n)...

- Glory to acknowledge?
- Error to avoid?
- Thanks to be given?
- Sin to confess?
- Promise to claim?
- Example to follow?
- Command to obey?
- Idea to challenge?
- Fact to trust?
- Intention to analyze?
- Conduct to be incorporated?