

Breaking Through:

Knowledge

- Get into Scripture (start with Matthew, Acts, Ephesians)
- Books
 - “Long Story Short” by Josh McNall
 - “How to Read the Bible for All it’s Worth” by Gordon Fee
 - “Church History: An Essential Guide” by Justo Gonzalez
 - “Questions to All Your Answers: The Journey from Folk Religion to Examined Faith” by Roger Olson
 - “The Good and Beautiful God” by James Bryan Smith

WPC Video Content ([youtube.com/waiteparkchurch](https://www.youtube.com/waiteparkchurch))

- Soul Training Series (winter 2017)
- Unshakable Life (series on Christian Character) (winter 2018)
- Prayer: The Master’s Class (fall 2018)
- Jesus’ Bible (series on how Jesus used the Old Testament) (summer 2017)

Practice

- Discipling yourself to attend worship service as often as possible.
- Find a place to serve.
- Put “Soul Training” or “Prayer: The Master’s Class” into practice (see above)

Community

- Join a small group (Contact Pastor Keith, keith@waiteparkchurch.org)
- Watch for more discipleship opportunities in the next few weeks



Found It

Four Stages of Faith:

1. **Looking for Something**—something is missing in life. Not sure what it is, but I’m open to Jesus.
2. **Found It**—I realized Jesus was what I was looking for. I accepted Jesus, but haven’t grown much beyond basic Christianity.
3. **Following It**—I’m committed to becoming more like Jesus. I have a solid knowledge of the Bible and have a desire to grow.
4. **All About It**—Every aspect of my life centers on Jesus.

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-23

Parable of the Soils

_____ = Jesus, the Apostles or anyone who shares the message of the Kingdom

_____ = the message of the Kingdom

_____ = the condition of our heart

Jesus' Explanation:

1. **The _____ (vs. 20)** the ground is so hard, the seed can't penetrate.
 - This is before our stages of faith

About the Seed:

"The _____ we preach determines the kind of _____ we make."

- When our gospel is only about heaven, it makes discipleship _____.

The Gospel Jesus Preached: "The kingdom of God (with Jesus as king) has come near. Repent and believe (*pistis*) the good news!" (Mark 1:14-15)

Pistis (Greek)

Good translation: _____

Better translations: Trust, _____, Fidelity.

Best translation: _____ to king Jesus.

2. The _____ Ground (vs 20)

- This heart is focused on _____ and has no roots.
- Enthusiasm without knowledge, practice, and community won't _____. (vs. 21)

3. Soil among the _____ (vs. 22)

Two barriers:

- a. The _____ of this life.
 - "Historical Anxiety"
- b. The deceitfulness of _____.

To Think About:

1. Being a Christian is about more than just your _____.
2. Don't settle for _____ faith.
 - Do _____ things.
3. The Kingdom of Heaven is worth giving _____ for.