**4 responses to the Word of God**

**Text:** Mark 4:13-20

1. **The Hard Heart. “ the devil** himself snatches the seed” v.15

Proverbs 28:14

Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD, but he who **hardens his heart** falls into trouble**.**

1. **The Shallow Heart.** “ The emotional hearer “ **the flesh** counterfeits religious feelings. V. 16-17
2. **The Crowded Heart.** “ the things of **the world** smother the growth and prevent a harvest”.v.18-19
3. **The worries of the world.**

**Philippians** 4:6
6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

**Matthew** 6:25
25 "So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food, drink, and clothes. Doesn't life consist of more than food and clothing?

**1 Peter** 5:7
7 Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you.

1. **The deceitfulness of riches.**

**1 Timothy** 6:9-10
9 But people who want to get rich keep falling into temptation. They are trapped by many stupid and harmful desires which drown them in destruction and ruin.
10 Certainly, the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people who have set their hearts on getting rich have wandered away from the Christian faith and have caused themselves a lot of grief.

**Proverbs** 15:27
27 A greedy man brings trouble to his family, but he who hates bribes will live.

**Proverbs** 11:4
4 Riches won't help on the day of judgment, but right living is a safeguard against death.

1. **The desire for other things.**

**Proverbs** 4:23
23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.

**Proverbs** 23:19
19 Listen, my son, and be wise, and keep your heart on the right path.

**Colossians** 3:16
16 Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and make you wise. Use his words to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

1. **The Fruitful Heart.**v.20

**John** 15:5
5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, **will produce much fruit**. For apart from me you can do nothing.

**Colossians** 1:10
10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: **bearing fruit in every good work,** growing in the knowledge of God,