

#### Mark 4:1-4

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around Him was so large that He got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. <sup>2</sup> He taught them many things by parables, and in His teaching said: 3 Listen!

<sup>3</sup> "A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup> As he was scattering the seed, some fell <u>along the path</u>"



• They repeatedly challenged Jesus' teaching!

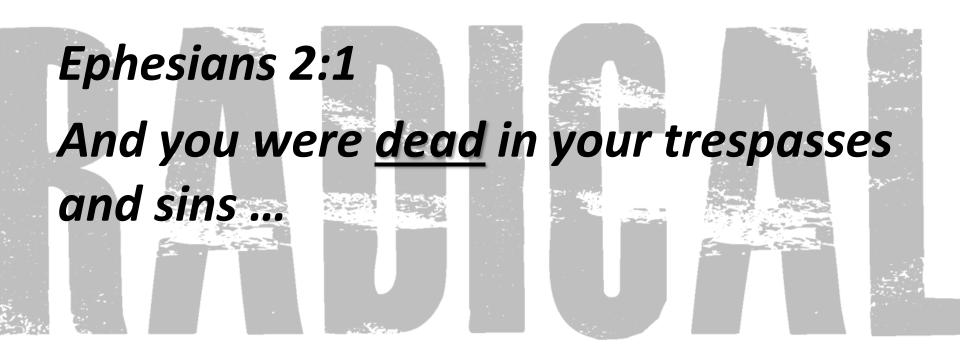
- They <u>repeatedly challenged</u> Jesus' teaching!
- When they repeatedly challenge Jesus' teaching, they harden their hearts!

Matthew 4:4, 15

"... the birds came and ate it up ... 15 Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them."

- They <u>repeatedly challenged</u> Jesus' teaching!
- When they repeatedly challenge Jesus' teaching, they harden their hearts!
- When they harden their hearts,
   Satan reinforces this attitude.





I Corinthians 2:14

The unbeliever does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are <u>foolishness</u> to him.

"The depravity of man is at once the most empirically verifiable reality <u>but</u> at the same time the most <u>intellectually resisted fact</u>."

-M. Muggeridge

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world ...



- Rooted in our flesh.
- Affirmed in our culture.
- Energized by Satan.

**Ephesians 2:1-2** 

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you formerly <u>walked</u> <u>according to</u> the <u>course</u> of this world <u>according to</u> the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is <u>now working</u> in the sons of disobedience.



Zechariah 7:11-12

"But they refused to pay attention; stubbornly they turned their backs and covered their ears. <sup>12</sup> They made their hearts as <u>hard as flint</u> and would not listen ..."



Mark 4:25

"Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him."

- Hard-hearted attitudes will <u>creep</u> into our lives.
  - We have a choice!