

# YOU ARE THE “GOOD SOIL” CHURCH!

## Good Soil Church – Part 4

### September 29, 2013

A “good soil” church is a fellowship where people hear the Word, act on it and produce its fruit.

**Matthew 16:18 (NIV)** “And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

**Matthew 16:23 (NIV)** “Jesus turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.’”

#### In God’s “Good Soil” Church...

- Jesus is the Cornerstone

**1 Peter 2:4 (NLT)** “You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God’s temple. He was rejected by people, but He was chosen by God for great honor.

**1 Peter 2:6-8 (NLT)** “As the Scriptures say, ‘I am placing a cornerstone in Jerusalem, chosen for great honor, and anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.’<sup>7</sup> Yes, you who trust him recognize the honor God has given him. But for those who reject him, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.’<sup>8</sup> And, ‘He is the stone that makes people stumble, the rock that makes them fall.’ They stumble because they do not obey God’s word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them.

**Matthew 21:43 (NIV)** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.”

- You are the living stones

**1 Peter 2:5 (NLT)** “And you are living stones that God is building into His spiritual temple. What’s more, you are His holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.”

**1 Corinthians 3:16 (NIV)** “Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you?”

#### AS LIVING STONES...

##### 1. You are ACCEPTABLE.

**1 Peter 2:9a (NLT)** “But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people.”

**Romans 15:7 (NLT)** “Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.”

##### 2. You are CAPABLE.

**1 Peter 2:9b (NLT)** “You are royal priests, a holy nation...”

**1 Corinthians 12:5&7 (TLB)** “There are different kinds of service to God...<sup>7</sup>The Holy Spirit displays God’s power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church.”

##### 3. You are VALUABLE.

**1 Peter 2:9c (NLT)** “You are... God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light.”

**1 Corinthians 7:23a (TLB)** “You have been bought and paid for by Christ, so you belong to Him...”

##### 4. You are FORGIVABLE.

**1 Peter 2:10 (NLT)** “Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God’s people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God’s mercy.”

**Isaiah 43:25 (GNT)** “I am the God who forgives your sins, and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you.”

**Isaiah 54:10 (GNT)** “The mountains and hills may crumble, but My love for you will never end; I will keep forever My promise of peace.’ so says the Lord who loves you.”