

Spring Cleaning the Soul – Day 2: Check the Soil

Key Scripture: Luke 6:45 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart

Opening Thought (Hook):

You can plant the right things in your life...
and still not see anything grow.
Not because the seed is bad—
but because the soil isn't ready.

Devotional:

Yesterday was about clearing the clutter.
But today—we go deeper.
Because once the surface is cleaned up,
you have to deal with what's underneath.
And that's where most of us struggle.

We want:

- peace
- joy
- patience
- growth

But we don't always stop to ask:

“What kind of soil am I working with?”

Because truth is—

you can't grow something healthy
in a heart that's been left unattended.

Relatable Picture:

If you've ever tried to plant something, you know this—you can't just throw seeds on the ground and hope for the best.

If the soil is:

- hard → nothing gets in
- rocky → nothing takes root
- full of junk → nothing has room to grow

It doesn't matter how good the seed is.

Bring It Home:

Spiritually, it's the same way.

Sometimes the reason you're not seeing growth isn't because:

- God isn't moving
- your faith isn't real
- or the Word isn't working

It's because something in your heart is blocking it.

Maybe your soil has become:

- **hardened** by disappointment
- **guarded** because of past hurt
- **crowded** with worry and distraction
- **dry** from being disconnected

And without realizing it, you start living shut down.

Scripture Insight:

Luke 6:45 says,

“Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”

In other words—

what's in you will eventually come out of you.

You can't fake healthy soil.

It shows up in:

- your reactions
- your words
- your attitude
- how you handle pressure

Core Truth:

What's growing in your life

is directly connected to what's happening in your heart.

And if you don't like what's coming out—

you don't just fix behavior...

you **check the soil.**

Turning Point:

Here's the hard part—

most of us would rather manage what people see

than deal with what God sees.

It's easier to:

- adjust our words
- hide our feelings
- push things down

than to actually say,

“God, something in me isn't right.”

But real growth doesn't happen on the surface.

It happens when you let God get into the places you usually keep guarded.

Practical Step:

Take an honest inventory today:

- What has hardened my heart lately?
- What am I avoiding dealing with?
- Where have I become negative, bitter, or closed off?
- When pressure hits... what comes out of me?

Don't rush this.

You're not trying to impress God—
you're inviting Him in.

Closing Thought:

Healthy growth doesn't start with better effort...
it starts with a better foundation.

God doesn't just want to fix what's visible—

He wants to heal what's underneath.

If you want something new to grow...

you've got to take care of the ground it's growing in.

Prayer:

God, Search my heart and show me what I can't see. If there are places in me that are hardened, hurt, or unhealthy— help me not

ignore them. Soften what's hard. Heal what's broken. Prepare my heart for what You want to grow in me. In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen.