

## **SCCC – NOURISHING HEARTS**

### **S - Scriptures**

“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”  
Matthew 13: 23

### **C – Consideration**

In the thirteen chapters of Matthew, Jesus spoke eight parables. The first one pictured four kinds of soil and a farmer scattering seeds in them: along the path, on rocky ground, among the thorns, and on good soil. Then, privately, he called his disciples and explained what caused the three first grounds bareness. Each of these soils represents the heart's response to the preaching of God's words. The first group is those spiritually deaf caused by calloused hearts (like the Pharisees); the second one speaks for those who honor people more than God; the third one stands for those who love pleasure and money more than God; and the fourth group represents the ones who placed God and His words above anything else in their lives. Such commitment made their hearts a good soil for the seeds. Their faith acted like a tractor that removed the rocks, the thorns and readied the soil for the seeds.

### **C – Commitment**

When Jesus left the earth, He commissioned His servants in His church, to take His place and became the sowers. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians exposed this truth, “I planted the seed and Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So, neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.” He pointed out that after planting, on good soil, some servants will water it carrying the idea of fertilizing the soil. Jesus's disciples not just received the seed the moment they heard the gospel, but they kept receiving His teaching, being cared for by their Master, and they became fruitful. Their faith was nourished daily by the Lord; therefore, stones and thorns were not parts of their hearts, with the exception of Judas. In the same way, we daily have to nourish our faith, receiving spiritual fertilization that comes from reading, meditating, and listening to God's words. Being careful, and avoiding bad or unknown fertilizers, which are false doctrines that can stop us to be fruitful in God's kingdom.

### **C – Call**

My Heavenly Father, You are the One who makes me grow; however, I need daily nourishment from the right source: Your word spoken by the true messengers. Deliver me from spiritual deafness, from dishonoring You and from hedonism, loving You with all of my heart with all of my soul and mind with all of my strength. Lord, help to be a faithful sower and a faithful caregiver as Your fellow worker in the fields that You send me to that I might nurture, love and serve Your precious orchards. In Jesus's name, I pray. Amen.