

SERIES: *The Puzzle of Parables*
TITLE: *The Secret*
SPEAKER: *Pastor Bob Marvel*
DATES: *October 9-10, 2021*

MESSAGE TAKEAWAYS:

- Parables make things memorable
 - Jesus used parables to reveal and conceal.
 - When Jesus is speaking, be careful how you listen.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How many sermons do you remember from your childhood? How many stories do you remember from your childhood? Why are stories so memorable?
 - What made Jesus' method of teaching so unique and powerful?
 - What did Bob mean when he said Jesus told parables to reveal and to conceal?
 - Why did Jesus begin many of his stories by saying, "Listen"?
 - Why do you think this is hard for us today?
 - In the parable there are four kinds of soil. Can you remember what the hard soil represented?
 - What about the rocky soil and the thorny soil, why are they unfruitful?
 - How can our current culture of fear choke out your faith?
 - Which kind of soil best represents your life lately, and why?
 - What kind of soil do you want to be, and what should good soil look like?
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NEXT STEPS:

- Ask God to give you a heart that truly listens.
- Allow God's Word to grow deep roots in your heart.
- Expect God to produce rich fruit through your life.