

Steve Greenberg's Handout, Sunday Morning, November 23, 2025

Week 18: Luke 8:1-15 Parable of the Soils - Heart

Luke 8:1-3 Many Women Minister to Jesus

Luk 8:1 Now it came to pass, afterward (**another time**), that He(**Jesus**) went through every city (**town**) and village, preaching and bringing (**announcing**) the glad tidings (**proclaiming the good news**) of the kingdom of God. And the twelve (**disciples**) were with Him (**so Jesus took his twelve disciples with him**),

Luke has many references of women in ministry and names them by name.

Luk 8:2 and certain (**or some other**) women (**who served & supported Jesus and his disciples**) who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities (**disabilities, sicknesses, diseases**):-Mary called Magdalene (**from the city of Magdala in Galilee by the sea**), out of whom had come seven demons,

Later writer's incorrectly in church history connected Mary Magdalene to the sinful woman of 7:37, calling her a former prostitute. The scripture only teaches she had seven demons and was healed, so it does not mention she was a prostitute.

Luk 8:3 and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward (**household or business manager**), and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him(**Jesus**) from their substance (**These women and others were helping to support them out of their own means**).

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Mat 27:55 And many women who followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, were there looking on from afar,

Mat 27:56 among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

Mary Magdalene Sees the Risen Lord

Mar 16:9 Now when He(**Jesus**) rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.

Luke 8:4-10 Parable of the Soils Matt. 13:1-17; Mark 4:1-12)

Luk 8:4 And when a great multitude (**very large crowd**) had gathered, and they had come to Him(**Jesus**) from every city (**various cities**), He(**Jesus**) spoke (**to the crowd**), by (**or using**) a parable:

Parable meaning: to place alongside. A parable places a story alongside a truth so the truth can be seen more clearly. A story that teaches a moral or spiritual lesson. Parables make people think, reflect, and respond. Jesus said parables both: reveal truth to those who are willing to hear and conceal truth from those whose hearts are hard (Mat 13)

Luk 8:5 "A sower (**or farmer**) went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some (**seed**) fell by the wayside (**foot path, or road**); and it was trampled down (**under foot**), and the birds of the air (**Lit: heaven**) devoured it (**ate it**).

Luk 8:6 "Some (**seed**) fell on rock (**rock covered by a layer shallow soil**); and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture (**no soil for the roots so it died for lack of moisture, water**).

Luk 8:7 "And some (**seed**) fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it.

Luk 8:8 "But other (**seed**) fell on good ground (**soil**), sprang up (**grew**), and yielded a crop a hundredfold (**hundred times more**)." When He(**Jesus**) had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear (**Jesus is saying hear & heed My words**)!" (**This verb is a Greek imperative: used as a command: to urge, invite, or exhort someone to do something. Jesus is saying listen up or actively listen, pay attention, discern the meaning, and receive pay attention to the truth in faith**)

Quote from Chuck Smiths 2,000 series on Blue Letter Bible

Jesus was always saying that. And in His messages to the seven churches He repeated it to each church. "He that has an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit in saying to the churches."

How important that we have an ear to hear what God is seeking to say. I am constantly praying, "God, give me an ear to hear what You have to say." And that is more than just hearing, it's understanding what God's message to man today would be. "God, what is Your message to me? What are You saying to me? What are You wanting to say to me? God, give me understanding, give me an ear to hear." For I realize that unless the Spirit does teach me, I can't learn. No matter how intelligent I might be, I cannot learn spiritual truth apart from the Spirit of God opening my heart to understand and to receive. For the natural man understandeth not the things of the Spirit, neither can he know them, they are spiritually discerned. God, give me an ear to hear.

Luk 8:9 Then His disciples asked Him(**Jesus**), saying, "What does this parable mean?"

Luk 8:10 And He said (**so Jesus replied**), "To you it has been given to know the mysteries (**must be revealed by God**) of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.' (**Isa 6:9 And He (voice of the Lord) said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive (or understand).** (**Spiritual truths hidden throughout the ages, but now revealed through the teaching of Christ**).

Jesus' parables communicates truth to his disciples and hide the truth from those uncommitted and unwilling to receive.

Luke 8:11-15 Parable of the Soils Explained (Matt. 13:18-23; Mark 4:13-20)

Luk 8:11 "Now the parable is (means) this: The seed is the "word of God" (points us to God word and is concerning eternal salvation).

The Word of God falls on different types of soil, or there is a different reception in the hearts of people to the Word of God. And the Lord is sort of illustrating by a story, parable, laying alongside the truth of the four types of people upon whom the Word of God falls.

1Pet 1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

1Pet 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1Pet 1:24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,

1Pet 1:25 But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

Luk 8:12 "Those (seeds) by the wayside (foot path or road) are the ones (representing those) who hear (the message of the gospel); then the devil comes and takes away the word (of God) out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved (the devil is preventing them from believing in Me, Jesus the Messiah, Anointed One, Christ so they can have eternal salvation).

Immediately Satan snatches the word away, and it is as though they had never heard.

That fact they do not believe to be saved assumes that faith is the means of salvation.

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Eph 2:9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Luk 8:13 "But the ones (seeds) on the rock (rocky soil, some soil covered by rocks) are those who, when they hear, receive (welcome) the word (message of the gospel) with joy; and these (seeds) have no root, who believe (a little) for a while, and in time of temptation fall away (do not come to a full believe, ultimately abandon the work of the Spirit from being truly saved). (In the time of testing and temptation they abandon what faith they had).

Often seen outwardly as a great emotional experience but do not lasting believe.

2Tim 2:11 This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him.

2Tim 2:12 If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

2Tim 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

Luk 8:14 "Now the ones (seeds or seed) that fell among thorns are those (seeds) who, when they have heard, go out and are choked (choked out, suffocated, unable to grow, concerned) with cares (worries, cannot truly trust God and His Word, want to be in control of their life's), riches, and pleasures of life (chose to put first pleasing themselves, the self-life and not willing to deny self & walk according to Gods wonderful and for fulling ways), and bring no fruit to maturity (never able to grow and mature and bear ripe fruit).

There is no real fruit that comes from their life. They hear, they receive, but never worked out completely so the fruitfulness is choked out by pleasures, riches, and cares of this world.

1Tim 6:9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1Tim 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Jhn 15:4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

Jhn 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

2Cor 3:4 And we have such trust through Christ toward God.

2Cor 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

2Cor 3:6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

1Cor 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

1Cor 15:11 Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gal 2:21 "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

God knows your needs, look He takes care of the birds and the flowers.

Luk 8:15 "But the ones (seeds) that fell on the good ground (good soil) are those (seeds) who, having heard the word (God's word) with a noble (honest) and good heart, keep it

(hold it tightly, cling & obey it) and bear fruit with patience (by persevering they produce a crop, good fruit).

End: