

#7 Ears to Hear

Luke 8:4-15

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Luke 8:4 While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵ “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture.

⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants.

⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to **hear**, let him **hear**.”⁹ His disciples asked him what this parable meant.

¹⁰ He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, ““though seeing, they may not see; though **hearing**, they may not understand. ¹¹ “This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. ¹² Those along the path are the ones who **hear**, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³ Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they **hear** it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. ¹⁴ The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who **hear**, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

¹⁵ But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who **hear** the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Luke 8:18 Therefore consider carefully how you **listen**. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him.”

1. The **SEED** = the Word of God Luke 8:11

A. Both contain life.

1 Peter 1:23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

B. Both are durable.

C. Both need good soil to bear fruit.

2. The **SOWER** = Anyone who spreads the Word of God

3. The **SOIL** = the Human Heart

THE FOUR SOILS

SOIL #1 - THE **HARDENED** HEART “along the (foot)path”

Luke 8:5 A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up.

*Luke 8:12 Those along the path are the ones who **hear**, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.*

SOIL #2 - THE **SHALLOW** HEART “rocky ground”

Luke 8:6 Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture.

*Luke 8:13 Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they **hear** it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away.*

SOIL #3 - THE **CROWDED** HEART “thorny ground”

Luke 8:7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants.

*Luke 8:14 The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who **hear**, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.*

SOIL #4 - THE **SOFT** HEART “good ground”

Luke 8:8 Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.”

*Luke 8:15 But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who **hear** the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.*

Which kind of soil are you?

Which kind of soil are those you love?

Which kind of soil are those you are witnessing to?