

Parable of the Sower LUKE 8:4-15

4. When a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable

5. "The sower went out to sow his seed ; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled under foot and the birds of the air ate it up.

6. "Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.

7. "Other seed fell among the thorns ; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out.

8. "Other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great." As He said these things, He would call out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

9. His disciples began questioning Him as to what this parable meant.

10. And He said, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is in parables, so that SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND.

11. "Now the parable is this : the seed is the word of God.

12. "Those beside the road are those who have heard ; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved.

13. "Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy ; and these have no firm root ; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away.

14. "The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

15. "But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

Parables Jesus often told parables. These stories about everyday things were designed as pictures that would help you understand spiritual realities more clearly – that is, if you “got the picture!”

*Reread this parable - mark **seed** with an S and **the soil it fell on** with a circle. (Include the pronoun “it”)*

DISCUSS Look more closely at verses 4-8

1. What were the 4 different kinds of soil where the seed fell?
2. Was there any difference between the seed that fell in the various places? What was different?
3. Which of the four results would have pleased the sower, and which would he not like? Why?
4. What did Jesus call out as he finished the story? What do you think He meant?
What is the message for us?

*Reread verses 9 and 10. Mark **Disciples** with a D, and **the rest** with R. (Don't forget the pronoun “they”)*

5. What did the disciples do?
What important lesson should we learn from that?
6. What is the difference between true disciples of Jesus and the rest of the world?

Reread verses 11-15, underlining the people pictured by each seed-on-soil situation.

7. What is it about seed that makes it a good picture of the word of God?
8. Who is the seed beside the road a picture of? Can you give an example?
9. Who is the seed on rocky soil a picture of? Can you give an example?
10. Who is the seed among thorns a picture of? Can you give an example?
11. Who is the seed in good soil a picture of?
What are the characteristics of this soil that you don't find in the others? Compare them.

12. Which group did the disciples fit into? How do you know?

What kind of soil is your heart? How much does the seed mean to you? What must you do with it?

13. In the case of each kind of soil, what is the final outcome? How important is that? (Galatians 5:22-24)

14. What does “with perseverance” teach you?

This parable is known as “The Parable of the Sower”. Could you think of another title that may suit it better?

