**How Much Are You Hearing?**

Luke 8:1-15

**Luke 8:1 (ESV)**Soon afterward He went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him,

**Luke 8:2 (ESV)**and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

**Luke 8:3 (ESV)**and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

**Luke 8:4 (ESV)**And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to Him, He said in a parable,

**Luke 8:5 (ESV)**“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.

**Luke 8:6 (ESV)**And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.

**Luke 8:7 (ESV)**And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.

**Luke 8:8 (ESV)**And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As He said these things, He called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**Luke 8:9 (ESV)**And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant,

**Luke 8:10 (ESV)**He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’

**Luke 8:11 (ESV)**Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

**Luke 8:12 (ESV)**The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

**Luke 8:13 (ESV)**And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.

**Luke 8:14 (ESV)**And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.

**Luke 8:15 (ESV)**As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

1. **The Sower**

**Luke 8:5 (ESV)**“A sower went out to sow his seed …”

**The sower sows *widely*.**

**The sower sows *faithfully*.**

**The sower sows *confidently*.**

**Psalm 126:6 (ESV)**He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

1. **The Seed**

**Luke 8:11 (ESV)
“**Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.”

**The seed is the *Word* of God.**

**The seed is the *Good News* of God.**

**Luke 8:1 (ESV)**Soon afterward He went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God …

**The seed is the *power* of God.**

**Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)**So shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

**Romans 1:16 (ESV)**For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

1. **The Soils**

**Some seed fell on *hardened* soil.**

**Luke 8:5 (ESV)**“And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.”

**Some seed fell on *rocky* soil.**

**Luke 8:6 (ESV)**“And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.”

**Some seed fell on *thorny* soil.**

**Luke 8:7 (ESV)**“And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.”

**Some seed fell on *fertile* soil.**

**Luke 8:8 (ESV)**“And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.”

1. **The Significance**

 **Luke 8:8 (ESV)**As He said these things, He called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**Luke 8:9 (ESV)**And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant,

**Luke 8:10 (ESV)**He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’

**Some hear God’s Word with a *stubborn* heart.**

**Luke 8:12 (ESV)**The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

**James 1:21 (ESV)**Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

**Hebrews 4:7 (ESV)**“Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.”

**Some hear God’s Word with a *shallow heart.***

**Luke 8:13 (ESV)**“And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.”

**Some hear God’s Word with a *self-seeking* heart.**

**Luke 8:14 (ESV)**“And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.”

**Some hear God’s Word with a *surrendered* heart.**

**Luke 8:15 (ESV)**“As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”