

THE GOOD DOCTOR

The Gospel of Luke

Let Me Tell You a Story Influence and Creativity

LUKE 8:1-15

In the parables we see Jesus use relational truths and experience to teach and apply kingdom wisdom.

Characteristics of Parables

- 1) **Creative** - Pictures from Life (Relatable)
- 2) **Informative** - Kingdom Insight/Ethics
- 3) **Consistent** - Conciseness/Brevity/Repetition
- 4) **Useful** - Conclusion/Application

The Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4-15)

The Seed = The Word of God

- A. Sowing on the Path** → **Heard the Word (12)**
 1. Speaks to the battle of those who hear (hearts)
 2. They do not believe and are not saved
- B. Sowing on the Rock** → **Hear and receive the word with enthusiasm but have no root (13)**
 1. Believe for a while but don't go deep
 2. They fall away (in times of testing and trial)
- C. Sowing in the Thorns** → **Hear the word but go on their way (14)**
 1. Truth is choked out by the cares, and riches, and pleasures of this life
 2. Fruit does not mature
- D. Sowing in the good soil** → **Hear the word and seize it - holding on no matter what**
 1. Driven by an honest and good heart
 2. Bear fruit with patience (Harvest)

Discussion Questions

1. What's your favorite story/book? Why? Explain.
2. Read Luke 8:4-15. Think back to when you first heard the the gospel. How did you first receive it? Share.
3. If the Word of God is the seed and you are the soil, which kind of soil are you? How can you ensure that you are good soil for God's Word to grow in? Discuss.
4. Pray together asking God 1) that you will be receptive to God's Word and that He will nourish and protect the seed (the word of God) He has planted you , 3) to give His truths strong roots so you stand up to temptations, 3) to prevent the cares of the world from letting the Word transform your lives (Abide Bible)

Matthew 13:10-17: The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"¹¹ He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.¹² Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them."¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand."¹⁴ In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving."¹⁵ For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' (Isaiah 6:9-10)

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.¹⁷ For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

Luke 8:1-15: 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,² and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out³ and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

⁴ And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable,⁵ "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.⁶ And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.⁸ 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."

⁹ And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant,¹⁰ 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.'¹¹ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.¹² 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.¹³ 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.¹⁴ 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.¹⁵ 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.