

## "Soiled Hearts"

Luke 8:4-15

HELLO  
MY NAME IS

Jesus

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## *The Gospel of Luke: Meeting Our Savior*

### **Warm-Up Question:**

How have the hurricanes affected your heart? How do they affect you spiritually?

### **READ: Luke 8:4-15**

- ▶ Why did Jesus speak in parables/stories, and what's the cause of someone hearing, seeing, or understanding them (v. 10)? (See also Matt. 13:11-17)
- ▶ What is the "seed" that is sown, and who sows it? Who represents the "soils"?

### **4 Types of Hearts**

#### 1. Hard Heart

- ▶ What happens when "seed" hits the "path" (v. 5, 12)?
- ▶ Describe someone you know with a hard heart and not receptive to God's Word. What are their surface reasons & heart reasons they aren't interested?

#### 2. Shallow Heart

- ▶ What happens when "seed" lands in "rocky" soil (v. 6, 13, Matt. 13:20-21)
- ▶ Describe someone that demonstrated a shallow heart. What seemed to be the testing or trial that caused them to fall away? Can you relate at all to this?

#### 3. Choked Heart

- ▶ What are the "thorns" (v. 14, Matt. 13:22) & what happens when "seed" grows among them?
- ▶ \* What are the most thorns-like things in life for you personally? Do you ever feel they "choke" your ability to receive and meditate on God's Word? (Spending time with God, distraction in church, discussion with friends, etc)

#### 4. Receptive Heart

- ▶ Why do some hear & "hold fast" to God's sowed Word, and what's the result?
- ▶ What is this "fruit"? Think of "fruit of the Spirit" and other such spiritual fruits.
- ▶ \* How do you feel God's Word has born "fruit" in your life these past months or year from receiving God's Word?
- ▶ \* Spend time encouraging each other with how you've seen any fruit in the life of others, whether your spouse, friends or those in your group?

NOTE: Be sure and leave time to get to the application questions with a \* below

### Question(s) for Prayer Time:

- ▶ Pray for those you know that have a hard, shallow or choked heart
- ▶ Pray that God would give you a receptive heart to receive God's word
- ▶ Pray God would bear specific fruits in your life, family and Life Group

**What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?**



SEVEN RIVERS  
CHURCH

# **The Paradoxical Path to Happiness**

## **Luke 6:17-26**

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## Scripture Passages Used:

**Luke 8:4** 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.”

**Luke 8:9** 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.

**Matt. 13:10** Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” **11** And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. **12** For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. **13** This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. **14** Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

““You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

**15** For this people’s heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed,  
lest they should see with their eyes  
and hear with their ears  
and understand with their heart  
and turn, and I would heal them.’

**Matt. 13:16** But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. **17** For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

**Matt. 13:18** “Hear then the parable of the sower: **19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. **20** As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, **21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. **22** As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. **23** As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

**For More Study of the Passage**  
**Passage: Luke 6:17-26**

**Observation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interpretation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer:** \_\_\_\_\_