



Week 16

Sermon Series: Lessons from the Sinless Savior

Sermon Title: People & Progress

Sermon Text: Luke 8:1-15

Group Week of: November 5, 2023

Sermon Date: November 12, 2023

The Text: Luke 8:9-15

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Hearing / Understanding - Isaiah 6:1-13
Day 2	Purpose of Parables – Matthew 13:10-17
Day 3	Enduring Persecution – Heb 10:32-39
Day 4	No Fruit – 1 Cor 3:10-16 / Matt 25:15-30
Day 5	Soil Work – James 1:13-27

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 rocky ground 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.

Textual Questions

- 1) What is (are) the main lesson(s) that you see God teaching through Luke in this passage?
- 2) Who is able to receive knowledge of the Kingdom of God through parables and why?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Jesus says that parables hide the secrets of the Kingdom from some but are revealed to others. Given Jesus' audience and His quotation of Isaiah 6:9, who are those that Kingdom secrets are hidden from? Who are those that Kingdom secrets are revealed to?

- 2) Jesus speaking in parables is both an act of judgement upon those with hard hearts as well as an act of grace upon them. Discuss with your group about how this can be true and what this says about the character of God.

- 3) Jesus first explains the kind of person who hears the word and then Satan comes and immediately takes what has been heard away. What does this look like in people today? Discuss with your group how the enemy does this in our society.

- 4) Jesus then explains the kind of person who hears the word but ends up walking away from the faith when suffering and persecution come because they have no true root. What sort of suffering and persecution do people face today? What does it look like when someone has "no root" (v. 13)?

- 5) Next, Jesus explains the kind of person who hears the word, but whose nutrients go to feed weeds rather than the wheat that has been planted. What sort of weeds do you commonly see robbing Christians of growth and maturity today?

- 6) Is it possible for the person described in the third seed to be saved? Please read Matthew 25:15-30 and 1 Corinthians 3:10-16 and then discuss with your group your thoughts.

- 7) The final example is good soil that receives the word, holds on to it, and perseveres until the harvest comes. What does this person look like today?

- 8) In this parable, Jesus presents four kinds of soil. Nevertheless, we may recognize some unhealthy soil characteristics in our own lives. What unhealthy characteristics do you find in the soil of your own heart? Is there anything that can be done about it? Share your thoughts with your group and pray for one another.