



MEANT

*for*

MORE

Learning to Live As God's Masterpiece

# **Part 3**

## **Less Complacency and More Transformation**



# Luke 8:4

One day Jesus told a story in the form of a parable to a large crowd that had gathered from many towns to hear him:

## **Luke 8:5**

**“A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds ate it.**



# **Luke 8:6**

**Other seed fell among rocks.  
It began to grow, but the plant  
soon wilted and died for lack  
of moisture.**

# Luke 8:7

Other seed fell among thorns  
that grew up with it and choked  
out the tender plants.



# **Luke 8:8a**

**Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop that was a hundred times as much as had been planted!”**

# **Luke 8:8b**

**When he had said this, he called out, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”**



# Luke 8:9

His disciples asked him what  
this parable meant.

# **Luke 8:10a**

**He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God. But I use parables to teach the others so**



# **Luke 8:10b**

**that the Scriptures might be fulfilled, which say: 'When they look, they won't really see. When they hear, they won't understand.'**

# Luke 8:11

This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is God's word.



# **Luke 8:12a**

**The seeds that fell on the  
footpath represent those who  
hear the message, only to have  
the devil come and take it away**

# **Luke 8:12b**

**from their hearts and prevent  
them from believing  
and being saved.**



# **Luke 8:13a**

**The seeds on the rocky soil  
represent those who hear the  
message and receive it with joy.**

## **Luke 8:13b**

**But since they don't have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation.**



# **Luke 8:14a**

**The seeds that fell among the  
thorns represent those who  
hear the message, but all too  
quickly the message is crowded  
out by the cares and riches and**

# **Luke 8:14b**

**pleasures of this life. And so  
they never grow into maturity.**



# Luke 8:15

And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest.



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# Jesus' Parables

A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Parables tell a story using something we see every day, to help us understand a spiritual truth that we can not see with our natural eyes.

# Jesus' Parables

Christ's parables are usually open-ended because they leave us with some profound questions to think about. They leave us with a truth to which we must respond, one way or another.



# Jesus' Questions

- What is the condition of your heart regarding God's Word?
- What is going to happen to you when you die?
- What are you doing with your life? Are you producing fruit?

# Principle #1

**Receiving and believing in the truth of God's Word is more often than not a process.**



# **The 3 Bad Soils**

**The Footpath**

**The Rocks**

**The Thorns**

# **The 3 Enemies of the Gospel**

**The Devil**

**The World**

**Our Flesh**

# **The Footpath – The Devil**

**They hear God's message of salvation but the Devil, the father of lies, swoops in and snatches the truth from their hearts, thereby preventing them from having continued belief.**



# **The Rocks – The World**

**They hear and receive God's  
message of salvation with joy,  
but because they are not  
deeply rooted in God's Word,  
they believe for a while  
but then they fall away.**

# **The Thorns – The Flesh**

**They hear God's message of salvation but their continued focus on the cares, riches, and pleasures of this life, prevents them from maturing in their belief. As a result, they do not produce spiritual fruit.**



# Principle #1

**Receiving and believing in the truth of God's Word is more often than not a process.**

# Principle #2

**Even as saved Christians,  
we are all constantly in  
the process of receiving  
or rejecting the truth  
of God's Word in our lives.**



# Principle #3

**The only reason we were able to respond positively to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ is because God supernaturally transformed our hearts.**

# Principle #4

**Believing in and accepting  
Jesus Christ as our Lord  
and Savior is not the end  
of our spiritual journey.  
It is just the beginning!**



# Principle #5

**Even as saved Christians,  
there is a whole lot more  
regeneration and  
transformation that God  
desires for our hearts.**







# Principle #6

**God is in the business of  
constantly revealing,  
eliminating, and transforming  
the footpaths, the weeds, and  
the rocks that are in our hearts.**

# Principle #7

**A heart, mind, and soul that has been transformed into good soil by God will almost always be evidenced by spiritual fruit that is plain to see.**

# **Part 3**

## **Continuous Regeneration and Transformation**





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