

CAMPFIRE

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

STORIES

PART 4: 100 TIMES MORE

Pastor Vinnie Ramos

Luke 8:4-15

⁴ While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵ “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.” 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.

Use this guide for personal and family devotions and weekly groups.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:4-15

Watch this week's message online: nlchurch.com/watch.

OBSERVATION

The Parable of the Sower is a powerful metaphor of faith and provides exceptional perspective on why some follow Christ and some choose not to.

Speaking near the beginning of His ministry, Jesus knew that different people would react to His message concerning the Kingdom of God in different ways. Each type of soil represents the factors and excuses we use to keep the Gospel from challenging our lives. The various types of soil point to the fact that we all hear and respond to the Gospel differently, and that Christ is still trying to reach us.

- 1 What are the different types of soil?
- 2 What does each soil mean to you?
- 3 What are things that keep the Gospel from taking hold in our lives today?

APPLICATION

As Jesus points out in the parable, our hearts are like soil. The things we do and the decisions we make affect the openness we may have to the truth and Gospel of Jesus. Guarding against things like cynicism, bitterness, or arrogance keep our hearts and minds open to the love of Jesus.

- 1 What excuses do we often make for accepting Jesus?
- 2 How can we fight against those?
- 3 Why do we allow outside factors to derail our faith?

PRAYER

My take away today: _____

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