

TRANSFORMING LOVE

“Fourth Soil People” | Luke 8:1-15

8:1 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him,



² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out;

³ Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.



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.

—Luke 8:1-15



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¹ After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him,

—Luke 8:1



⁴ While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable:

—Luke 8:4



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.

—Luke 8:5



¹¹ “This is the meaning of the parable:
The seed is the word of God.

—Luke 8:11



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.’
—Luke 8:10



² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out;

—Luke 8:2



³ Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

—Luke 8:3



If the transforming love of Jesus
goes down into you...
He will transform your life.



⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.”

—Luke 8:8a



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.

—Luke 8:5



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.

—Luke 8:6-7



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.

—Luke 8:5



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.

—Luke 8:12



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.

—Luke 8:13



¹¹ “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

—Jeremiah 29:11



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.

—Luke 8:14



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.’
—Luke 8:10



...humbly accept the word planted in
you, which can save you.

—James 1:21b



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.

—Luke 8:15



“Without wonder, we approach spiritual formation as a self-help project. We employ techniques. We analyze gifts and potentialities. We set goals. We assess progress. Spiritual formation is reduced to cosmetics...



Without wonder, the motivational energies in spiritual formation get dominated by anxiety and guilt. Anxiety and guilt restrict; they close us in ourselves. They isolate us with feelings of inadequacy or unworthiness; they reduce us to ourselves at our worst...



Spiritual formation is distorted into moral workaholism or pious athleticism.”

—Eugene Peterson



When he said this, he called out,
“Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”
—Luke 8:8b



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