

Sermon Notes | **with** - Luke 8:1-21

Luke 8:1-3 — Example of those who hear God's Word

Women who hear Jesus' proclamation.
Their fruit is their support of Jesus' ministry.

Luke 8:4-8 — Take care how you hear

Jesus invites His audience to listen.
Be careful how you hear.

Luke 8:9-10 — Take care how you hear

The parable identifies the state of the heart.
Some hearts cannot hear.

Luke 8:11-15 — Take care how you hear

Four kinds of hearts: hard heart, shallow heart, divided heart, receptive heart.
The explanation reveals two kinds of people—those who listen and those who do not.

Luke 8:16-18 — Let your light shine

The Word that takes root must shine outward.
Hearing and shining are linked—the measure of your hearing becomes the measure of your light.
Obedience makes truth visible.
Again, Jesus reveals two kinds of people—those who have the light and those who do not.

Luke 8:19-21 — Hearing that leads to doing

True relationship with Christ is not proximity but obedience.
"My mother and brothers are those who hear the Word of God and do it."
Luke brackets this teaching with two examples of those who hear God's Word: the women Jesus rescued who now support His ministry, and the family of Jesus, which extends beyond physical relatives to all who listen and obey.

How can we hear, and what does that fruit look like?

The soil does not change when the seed comes; the heart must already be soft.
We soften our hearts by putting ourselves in places of change and practicing the disciplines: fellowship, solitude, service.

Five biblical pictures of fruit:

Repentance (**Matthew 3:8**),

Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**),

Good works (**Colossians 1:10**),

Praise (**Hebrews 13:15**).

Multiplying disciples (**John 15:16**).

Essential principle: abide in Christ (**John 15:4–5**).

Warnings against fruitlessness.

Big Idea: Be careful how you hear.

Will the Word pass through your ears or take root in your heart?

Will your light fade or shine?

Will your faith remain shallow or bear fruit?

Closing Challenges

The Heart — Ask God, "What kind of soil am I?" (**Psalm 139:23–24**).

The Lamp — Let others see the light of what you've heard; light doesn't shout—it shines.

Obedience — Be doers, not just hearers; choose one act of obedience this week.

Discussion Guide | **with** - Luke 8:1-21

1: **How might the inclusion of women in this passage challenge cultural or religious expectations of that time — and maybe ours today?**

2: Jesus describes four types of soil. **Which type do you identify with most right now, and why?** Have you ever experienced a “soil change” in your heart — softer or harder over time?

3: **What are some practical steps you could take or spiritual disciplines you could practice this week** to put yourself in a place to hear?

4: **When have you been tempted to hide your faith or stay silent** about what God has done in your life? What helped (or could help) you let your light shine more openly?

5. Jesus said His true family are those who hear God's Word and do it. **What does it look like in everyday life to “hear and do” the Word** — in your home, work, or relationships?

6. **How can you stay connected to Christ throughout the week in practical ways?** Of the five biblical fruits — repentance, Spirit, good works, praise, multiplying disciples — **which do you most want to see grow in your life right now?**