

Luke 8:4-18 Message-based Small Group Lesson

Opening

- 1. Share about a time in your life when you had any kind of a gardening experience or school project where you planted something.
- 2. Has there been a time in your life when you diligently prepared for something, such as a special event or the arrival of a guest? Why did you prepare the way you did?

Interaction with the text

- 1. Read Luke 8:5-8. What title would you give to this parable and why?
- 2. Briefly describe what you think each of the soils means. What are some present day examples of them?
- 3. What is Satan's role in the process Jesus describes in verse 12? What methods does Satan use?

- 4. Verse 14 talks about thorns. What are some modern-day thorns present in our culture?
- 5. In three of the four soils, there is the appearance of growth. Is this always evidence of life-transformation? Why or why not?
- 6. Jesus gives a very stern warning in verse 18. As you read this, what comes to mind for you as a result of his words?
- 7. Read Luke 8:19-21. In verse 21, who is Jesus saying his family members are?

Application to life

- 1. Which of these soils best describes the condition of your heart? How has this shown up in your life?
- 2. Identify one thing you can do in your life to better prepare the soil of your heart to hear God's Word.
- 3. Is there a priority in your life that needs to change for you to become the soil Jesus describes in verse 15? What would get in the way of you making this change?
- 4. Close with a time of prayer for each other.