



**Parables – The Sower**  
**Mike Higley/Lead Pastor — January 28, 2018**  
**Luke 8:4-15**

**2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

Today's three frameworks:

**Purpose** for your life – directed by the Creator/Lord/Sower

**Position** of your life – directed by who/what you allow to influence you

**Product** through your life – directed by your choices alone

**Pathway** Hearts

**Luke 8:5** "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 8:12** 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.

**Romans 1:16** *It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.*

**Eph 3:20** *... to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...*

**Untested** Hearts

**Luk 8:6** Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture.

**Luk 8:13** 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.

**Romans 8:38** *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, **39** nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**Luke 12:8** *And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, **9** but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God.*

**Distracted** Hearts

**Luk 8:7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants.

**Luk 8:14** 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.

**Jas 1:23-24** *Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.*

**Joh 15:5** *"I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me – and I in him – bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing."*

### **Producing Hearts**

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

**Luk 8:15** *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.*

**Eph 4:13** *...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

### **Applicable directions:**

- Personally, you must **surrender** to the truth that we all need to become better.
- Latch-on to solid spiritual **disciplines**—scripture reading, prayer, community, serving
- Seek **desperately** the fullness of Jesus—worship, obedience, reliance.

