



The Four Soils

Brian Van Eps | Teaching Pastor | July 17, 2022

A cultivating question: How is the soil of your soul today?

*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, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; 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. While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: "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. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. 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." **Luke 8:1-8 (NIV)***

The Seed: The Word of God

*His disciples asked him what this parable meant. 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." "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God." **Luke 8:9-11 (NIV)***

The First Soil: Deceived Donna

*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 (NIV)***

The Second Soil: No Root Rocky

*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 (NIV)***



The Four Soils

Brian Van Eps | Teaching Pastor | July 17, 2022

The Third Seed: Choked Out Carla

*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 (NIV)***

The Fourth Seed: Good Heart Greg

*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 8:15 (NIV)***

A Lesson to Remember: Sow Generously and Respond Faithfully

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How is the soil of your soul today?
- 2) How have you received God's word in your life?
- 3) Who do you most relate with of the types of soil? Why?
- 4) Who do you least relate with? Why?
- 5) How can you sow generously this week?
- 6) How can you respond faithfully this week?