

CENTERGROVE CHURCH

Scriptures for further study

1 Timothy 4:7-8 | Matthew 4:4 | Proverbs 8:34-35 | John 6:63

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Luke 8:4-15

"I want to challenge you not to waste this pandemic. It is bad - but it is also an opportunity to see God's work in your life, and in the lives of others, make real advances." - Dr. Steve Corts

1. Who is the best listener you know and why? What is the difference between hearing something and listening to something?
2. Read Luke 8:4-15. Jesus uses one of his favorite teaching methods, a parable, to show how God is working in the world and how people should respond. Make a list of your first impressions/observations after reading this passage.
3. According to Pastor Corts, everything rises and falls on three things that people bring to the Word of God, namely our habits, hearts and hopes. Why do you think Jesus decided to tell this parable?
4. In what way does the crowd (verse 4) model the practice of establishing right (healthy) habits?
5. There can be no transformational hearing of the Word of God and no fullness of life in God if we don't have the right hearts (verses 12-15). Jesus shows us that our hearts must be in a particular condition to appropriately hear the Word of God. What are the heart conditions of each kind of soil mentioned in this parable? Which one describes your current condition?
6. To establish the right hope, in verse 15, Jesus states that the good soil not only represents a heart that holds fast to the Word in goodness and honesty, but also a heart that bears fruit with patience. How can you make the most of this time of isolation/separation to establish a listening and fruitful heart?
7. How will you begin to develop a spiritual lifestyle of confidence in the Word of God? Practically speaking, what will that look like?