



# Message Notes

Week 1: Luke 8:4-15 (ESV)

Welcome to our new series, "Parables"! This series coincides with our upcoming Vacation Bible School, July 24-28. We want to offer a shared experience for you and your kids and grandkids.

**Big Idea for this week:**  
 Spending time with God is how we \_\_\_\_\_.

There may be seasons in our faith when we feel like the 4 soils:

1. We may feel \_\_\_\_\_,
2. We may feel \_\_\_\_\_,
3. We may feel \_\_\_\_\_,
4. We are called to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Bad advice**

- \_\_\_\_\_ your time with God
- \_\_\_\_\_ about everything
- \_\_\_\_\_ follow after Jesus

**Good Advice**

- \_\_\_\_\_ your time with God
- \_\_\_\_\_ God in everything
- \_\_\_\_\_ follow after Jesus

1. We won't grow when we \_\_\_\_\_ things to \_\_\_\_\_ our growth
2. We grow best when we \_\_\_\_\_ things that \_\_\_\_\_ our growth

Big idea: grow  
 1. distant / 2. discouraged / 3. distracted / 4. deliberate  
 Bad: neglect / worry / sorta  
 Good: prioritize / trust / fully  
 Points: 1. allow / stunt  
 2. value / cause

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday gathering. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with your Life Group.

1. What stuck out to you about this week's parable?
2. What is one spiritual habit that you think you do pretty well? What is one spiritual discipline that you struggle with? Why?
3. What do you do when you find yourself in one of the seasons of faith we discussed? When you are distant, discouraged, or distracted, how do you move from those to deliberate?
4. Do you think it's possible to grow if we follow the bad advice? Why or why not? How do we follow the good advice to put ourselves in a position to grow?
5. How is God speaking to you today? What is one thing you can do to live in obedience to God today?

**Prayer: Jesus, thank You for the parable You taught in Your Word. We ask that You allow the things You taught to equip us to live our lives as good soil. We want to bear fruit with patience in Your Name. Amen.**

We hope to see you next week as continue in our series, "Parables". We will focus on Matthew 25:14-30: The Parable of the Talents