

*Jesus Says...*

**Are You Listening?**

**Luke 8:1-21**

*I went to church all my life, but I never heard  
a sermon until I was 58 years of age...*

## Are You Listening? – Luke 8:1-21

# Exposition

## The Setting (vs. 1-4)

- **Jesus' women (vs. 2-3)**
  - **The counter-cultural esteem for & value of women!**
  - **The gospel is intended to challenge social / political norms, but Jesus' method is indirect: transformed people who in turn transform society**
  - **The church's task: spiritual transformation of the individual**
- **An 'impressive' crowd (vs. 1,4)**
  - **Jesus was not impressed**
  - **Good soil of responsive hearts (not 'good' numbers)!**

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# Exposition

## The Setting (vs. 1-4)

## About Parables (vs. 9,10,18)

- **What Jesus' parables are...**
  - A story or illustration that takes something from everyday life and compares it to spiritual truth
- **Why Jesus taught with parables...**
  - To reveal truth to some while keeping other from understanding.
  - To give more light/revelation to those who are listening and withhold it from those who are resisting
  - See Matt 13:13-17, Isaiah 6:10,11
  - Truth responded to leads to ever more light – but truth rejected leads to ever greater darkness. (See Romans 1)

## Are You Listening? – Luke 8:1-21

# Exposition

**The Setting (vs. 1-4)**

**About Parables (vs. 9,10,18)**

**The Four Soils / Hearts (vs. 4-8, 11-15)**

- **Three Elements:**
  - **Farmer = Jesus**
  - **Seed = the Word of God**
  - **4 Kinds of soil = Different heart responses to the Word**
    - **Hard, non-responsive soil – the Word has no impact**
    - **Rocky, shallow soil – no true and lasting results**
    - **Thorny, infested soil – the world chokes out the Word**
    - **Good soil – the Word bears rich fruit for God**

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# **Exposition**

**The Setting (vs. 1-4)**

**About Parables (vs. 9,10,18)**

**The Four Soils / Hearts (vs. 4-8, 11-15)**

- **Three Elements**
- **Two Observations**
  - **Cultural insight: sow first, then plow**
  - **One kind of seed – four responses**

## **Are You Listening? – Luke 8:1-21**

# **Exposition**

**The Setting (vs. 1-4)**

**About Parables (vs. 9,10,18)**

**The Four Soils / Hearts (vs. 4-8, 11-15)**

- **Three Elements**
- **Two Observations**
- **The Soils**
  - **Hardened soil – Hardened heart – No response**
  - **Rocky soil – Shallow heart – Superficial/emotion response**
  - **Thorny soil – Infested heart – Aborted response**
  - **Good soil – Responsive heart – Fruitful life**

## **Are You Listening? – Luke 8:1-21**

# **Exposition**

**The Setting (vs. 1-4)**

**About Parables (vs. 9,10,18)**

**The Four Soils / Hearts (vs. 4-8, 11-15)**

**Furthermore... (vs. 16-21)**

**Are You Listening? – Luke 8:1-21**

**Exposition**  
**Conclusion**

*Are you listening?*