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Regards,

*Effective Youth Ministry Press Team*

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# **LUKE: JESUS' PARABLES**

**Ken Moser**



# LUKE: JESUS' PARABLES

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# LUKE: JESUS' PARABLES

## introduction

**Welcome to our study on the parables in Luke!**

The parables of Jesus are some of the most famous stories ever told. There are stories of weeds, lost property, tax collectors, enemies and fruity trees! Some of these stories are very easy to understand and others are a bit more difficult. However, each one has a strong point to make about what it means to follow Jesus and make a real difference to those around you.

Be careful, these are not bedtime stories or fairy tales for little children. Parables have a real sting in the tale and are designed to make you think, act and live for the King.

Enjoy these great stories from Luke!

Ken Moser



**PLEASE DON'T PHOTOCOPY THESE STUDIES**

**all proceeds from the sale of this material  
goes straight back into youth ministry**

Luke: Jesus' Parables

# Produce a Good Crop

The Parable of the Sower  
and the Seeds, Luke 8:4-15

BUT the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. against such things there is no law. galatians 5:22-23



let's get started

1 What is your favorite vegetable—do you have one? How do you like it cooked?

2 Have you ever grown anything? (Circle your answer)

a flower a tree  
A veggie garden a weed  
mold I've never grown a thing!  
something else? \_\_\_\_\_

✦ How did it go? Did you get to eat anything from the work you put into it?

going deeper



This famous story. Read Luke 8:4-15.

Part I: v.4-8

✦ Have you ever read or heard this story before?

✦ What immediately impacts you when you hear it?

✦ What is the seed that is being planted (v.11)?

Write down where each of the 4 seeds lands and what happens to it.

	Where does the seed land?	What happens to it?
Seed 1 (v. 5)		
Seed 2 (v. 6)		
Seed 3 (v. 7)		
Seed 4 (v. 8)		

But I thought parables were supposed to be simple! Part II: v.9-10

[A parable can sometimes seem a bit like a fairy tale or a fable—a simple story with an easy to understand message. Here in v.9-11 we are told that this isn't the case!]

✦ Read v.9-11 again. Why does Jesus seem to be making it impossible for people to turn to him? Doesn't he want everybody to follow him?

[If you need more help on this tricky subject have a look at John 6:44-45 (see also Matt. 11:25-27).]

The story is explained! Part III: v.11-15

	What happens spiritually?
Seed 1 (v. 12)	
Seed 2 (v. 13)	
Seed 3 (v. 14)	
Seed 4 (v. 15)	

✦ What does it mean to “produce a great crop”?

✦ What do you think this looks like? (Can you think of practical examples?)  
(See also Galatians 5:22-26 for more information on what it means to “produce fruit”!)

### Let's take a closer look at what happens to these seeds!

If you have time, look up these other verses from the Bible that shed some light on “being a seed.”

- **Seed 1** (v. 12): 1 Peter 5:8-9; Revelation 12:12.  
(See also Luke 22:31.)
- **Seed 2** (v. 13): Romans 11:22; Colossians 1:21-23;  
Hebrews 3:12-19 (See also James 1:2-4.)
- **Seed 3** (v. 14): Matthew 6:24; 1 Timothy 6:9-10; 6:17.
- **Seed 4** (v. 15): John 15:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3.



getting active

### Helping each other

✦ Why do you think Jesus cries out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear”?

✦ What does Jesus want us to do with the word of God?

✦ How can we help each other to “produce a crop” with it?

✦ Is there anything we need to do to change in light of this Bible study?

### let's pray

- Pray that we will hear the word of God, accept it and produce fruit.
- Pray that we will help each other to produce a great crop.
- Pray for our friends, that they will hear about Jesus and turn to him.

10 stay tuned

Next week, we will look at the famous story of the Good Samaritan!

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY:  
**The week ahead**





# For your eyes only: The Week Ahead

## 1. Personal Bible Reading

For the next six weeks, we are going to read the Old Testament book of Exodus. This is a book that is filled with famous stories—you may have even seen a movie or two based on it! This week, we will read the first four chapters. They tell us about the birth of Moses, one of the greatest men who ever lived.

### My Weekly Bible Reading Plan!

In Exodus I read (place a ✓ when you have read it.)

Chapter 1 ☐ Chapter 2 ☐ Chapter 3 ☐ Chapter 4 ☐

### Urgent! Urgent! Produce fruit in your Christian life!

#### 1. Fruit Part I: The gospel is growing all over the world.

##### Read Colossians 1:3-8.

- ✦ Why is Paul so thankful? (There are three reasons.)
- ✦ What two things is the gospel doing all over the world? (v. 6)

#### 2. Fruit Part II: It is really important to bear fruit in your Christian life.

##### Read John 15:1-8.

- ✦ What must we do to bear fruit? (See v. 4-6.)
- ✦ What happens if we don't bear fruit? (See v.2 & 6.)

## 2. Memory Verse

Can you learn the memory verse at the top of this study (Galatians 5:22-23)? Give it a try this week!

## 3. Prayer

Pray that you will remain in Jesus and bear fruit for him. Pray that you will get rid of all the things that keep you from being a strong Christian. Pray that you will not fall into the traps of the first three seeds:

- Pray that God will help you to resist Satan's temptations.
- Pray that you will not fall away due to trials.
- Pray that you will not be choked by worries and the desire for wealth and pleasure.

Things that I can thank God for: \_\_\_\_\_

Things that I need to pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

### I really want to be a fruitful seed! What do I need to do?

Here are some "hot tips" to help you to be fruitful in your relationship with Jesus. Many of them will be obvious—but it is usually the obvious things that will keep you strong!

1. **Keep reading the Bible.** Knowing exactly what God wants you to do will help you to bear fruit.
2. **After you read the Bible, pray that God will give you the strength to put it into practice.** God loves to answer this prayer!
3. **Keep hanging around people who can help you to be a strong Christian.** You may have heard the old saying "iron sharpens iron" (Proverbs 27:17). This means that strong followers of Jesus help each other to be strong followers of Jesus!
4. **Be on your guard! Resist the things that kept the first three seeds from being fruitful.** Be prepared for Satan's schemes (seed one), times of spiritual testing (seed two), and your own tendencies to worry and pursue wealth and pleasure (seed three). Learn to fight against these three forces. Pray for the strength to resist them. You may need to chat with your Bible study leader for help with this.
5. **Learn to "live by the Spirit."** In other words, learn to do the things that please God and avoid things that God hates. Read and reflect on Galatians 5:16-26. Try your best to get rid of the sinful nature (v.16-21) and to produce the fruit of the Spirit (v.22-25).
6. **Learn to listen and learn to be humble.** One painful part of the Christian life is learning to take advice, correction or a warning from a Christian brother or sister who loves you. Proverbs 12:15 tells us that, "a wise man listens to advice." Be humble and listen to those around you who try to help you to be strong.
7. **Similarly, find the strength to warn a Christian brother or sinner who is wandering away from Jesus or doing things that aren't helpful.** James 5:19-20 tells us that "Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins." Sometimes you have to risk getting a friend angry in order to help him/her turn from sin.
8. **Realize that following Jesus and producing fruit is a day to day thing.** Pray each morning for strength and thank him each night for a good day. When you fail, seek forgiveness and strength to do better.