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Sermon Outline

“The Parable of the Four Soils”  
*Luke 8:1-15*

1. The content of the parable: a familiar scene of a sower and his seed (vv. 4-8)
2. The purpose of the parables: to reveal spiritual truths to receptive hearts and to conceal spiritual truths from hardened hearts (vv. 9-10; Isaiah 6:9)
3. The meaning of the parable: God’s truth yields abundant harvest when it falls on fertile hearts. (vv. 11-15)
   * The sower: anyone who shares the Gospel message
   * The seed: the Word of God
   * The soil: there are four kinds of hearts in those who hear God’s Word.
     + The path: the hard, unreceptive heart (v. 12)
     + The rocky ground: the shallow, superficial heart (v. 13)
     + The thorny ground: the strangled heart (v. 14)
     + The good soil: the receptive heart (v. 15)