**Luke 8:1-18 Outline – March 1, 2022**

1. **The Purpose (1-3)**
2. Jesus proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God

**Luke 4:43** “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.”

1. Why do some people repent and believe the gospel, while so many others do not?
2. **The Parable Proclaimed (4-8) – An earthly story with a heavenly meaning**

**Mark 4:13** Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable?

1. **The Prophecy (9-10)**
   1. A blessing to believers and a barrier to nonbelievers
   2. The parable has the effect of blinding eyes, deafening ears, and hardening hearts

**Isaiah 6:8-10**

“Even when preaching the Word of God does not soften and save and heal, it is not necessarily ineffective. This preaching of the Word may be doing God’s terrible work of judgment. It may be hardening people and making their ears so dull that they will never want to hear again. Don’t be cavalier in the hearing fo God’s Word week after week. If it is not softening and saving and healing and bearing fruit, it is probably hardening and blining and dulling.” John Piper

1. **The Parable Explained (11-15) – a model for evangelism**
2. The Sower – the evangelist is hopeful for a harvest of souls
3. The Seed – the Word of God, must be implanted to work (Rom 10:14-17)
4. The Soils – the heart condition of the hearer
   1. Stone-hard and unreceptive (Rom 1:18; Heb 3:13; 2 Cor 4:4)
   2. Shallow and superficial (1 John 2:19)
   3. Strangled and divided (2 Tim 4:10)
   4. Soft, recepitive and fruitful (Jas 1:22, Gal 5:22-23; John 15:8)
5. **The Product (16-18) – living in the light**
6. Be attention to how you hear!
7. “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your heart!” (Heb 3:15-17)