

~THE BOOK OF LUKE~  
~Chapter 6-8~

**Looking At Luke 6:43-49**

A) **Lk. 6:43-45.** These verses are similar to **Mt. 7:15-20**. They deal with our life in Christ.

- The word “good” in vs. 43 means “excellent in its nature and characteristics and therefore is well-adapted to its ends.” It has the idea of usefulness, something admirable. Good trees do not bear bad quality fruit, nor can a bad quality tree bear good fruit.
- Vs. 44 makes an obvious observation. Each tree, each person, is known by their life.
- Vs. 45 is important as Jesus clearly states that a person who belongs to Him, just as a tree will show evidence of being a healthy tree, a follower of Christ will show the same by their life.
- The word “known” in vs. 45 has several nuances when used in the NT. One of those is that it can refer to learning something by watching or observing. I can see that as its meaning here in vs. 45. We are known by our fruit, by being observed, by how we live before the world around us.
- The “good” person noted in vs. 45 is one who is pursuing the right way to live as led by God. They have been changed by the Lord and will produce “good” in their life.
- The end of vs. 45 says it all. The heart describes who we are as a person – our choices, our conscience, our emotions, etc. We only can do good because God has changed us.
- We cannot overlook the word “produces” in vs. 45. Who we are is seen in our actions and the words we speak. Someone can only fake Christianity up to a point.
- **What is some of the evidence in our life that we know Him?**

B) **Lk. 6:46-49.** Similar to **Mt. 7:24-27**. Jesus continues talking about who His followers are.

- Jesus asked a challenging question in vs. 46. Jesus, as He often did, by asking this, is thinning the crowd. Many people followed Him, to see the miracles and listen to His teachings, but they were not willing to commit to Him. See Jn. 6.
- The word “call” in vs. 46 makes the point that to verbalize Jesus as Lord, the one stating this should also be willing to put into practice what that means.
- Jesus mentions “Lord” twice for emphasis. The word itself points to Christ as the Master, Boss, CEO of our life. He is the Lord because of Who He is. Jesus is the Sovereign King, Lord of our lives. See Rom. 10:9-10.
- Obedience is part of following Christ. No one does it perfectly.
- In vs. 47 Jesus defines what He expects of those who call Him “Lord.”
- The first word Jesus mentions is “hears.” The idea is understanding what is said, attending to what we hear, paying attention to what He teaches, and obeying His words.
- The second word is “does” here in vs. 47. We live out what Jesus teaches us. Following Christ is more than verbal assent to some facts about Him.
- Vss. 47-49 is an illustration comparing those who truly belong to Christ and those who do not or make the claim that they do.
- **What do we think it means that Jesus is Lord of our life and how do we show it?**

**Looking At Lk. 8:1-15.** There is a well-known parable here in **Lk. 8** that we will look at.

A) **Lk. 8:1-3.** Luke mentions some of the ladies involved in the ministry of Jesus.

- In **Luke 7** Jesus heals a Centurion's servant (vss. 1-10). He raises a widow's son from the dead (vss. 11-17). He helps John the Baptist and his disciples work through Who Jesus was (vss. 18-35). He teaches a Pharisee about forgiveness (vss. 36-50).
- As **Chuck Swindoll** notes, regarding **Lk. 8:1-3**, "**Luke inserts an editorial note about the practical expression of faith on the part of genuine disciples.**"
- **Lk. 8:1-3** is a reminder of a couple of things. **One**, Jesus and Christianity raised the level of womanhood in the first century. They helped in Jesus' ministry. **Two**, these ladies served in helping the ministry of Jesus keep going and did so out of their own means.
- No church can make it without ladies serving. Note the three ladies mentioned in these verses and the phrase "many others."

B) **Lk. 8:4-15.** Jesus tells a parable and explains the meaning behind the purpose of stories.

The following quote from **Chuck Swindoll** regarding why Jesus told parables helps us to understand some the reasoning of our Lord,

**"Jesus used parables in mixed audiences because this unique form of story accomplished two important objectives: Parables repelled hostile skeptics and equipped serious disciples."**

- Vss. 4-8 is the parable of the "Sower and the Seed." It is very similar to what Jesus said in Mt. 13 when He told the same story.
- In vs. 9 the disciples ask Jesus what the parable meant.
- In vs. 10 Jesus is contrasting those who want to learn from Him and those who simply are following but without commitment to Him. Jesus teaches greater detail to those who want to know, who are open to spiritual truths, and He knows who they are.
- Vs. 11 tells us the seed is the Word of God in this story.
- Vs. 12 is clear. The person who simply hears the Word but does not do anything with it, where it becomes part of their life, is not saved. The enemy blinds them.
- Vs. 13 describes the person who makes an emotional decision to follow Jesus, but the Word of God does not implant itself in their life. Tough times, which are used by God to grow us (Rom. 5; Jam. 1; 1 Peter 1) can lead this type of person to walk away. They are not believers. The Billy Graham Association warns against emotional decisions.
- This view, that the first two types of people that are noted in the parable as not being followers of Christ, is the majority view that I have read.
- Lk. 8:14 is seen in two different ways. Some believe this person is not a Christian, that the world system rules their life and though they may have been interested in following Christ, they chose a different path.
- Others see this person as a believer who shows some evidence of faith but never really matures in their walk. Though I do not believe they are Christians, either view works.
- Vs. 15 shows us one who is a follower of Christ. They prove it by their life.

