### Luke

## Chapter 8

1Well after that, [Jesus] started traveling from city to city and village to village with the twelve [disciples], preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God.  
  
2Also [traveling with him] were some women whom [he’d] cured of wicked spirits and illnesses. There was Mary (whom is called the Magdalean) from whom 7 demons had come out, 3Joanna the wife of Chuza (Herod’s top aid), as well as Susanna and many others that were serving his needs from their possessions.  
  
  
4Well when a large crowd had gathered along with those who were traveling with him from city to city, he spoke to them using this parable:  
  
 5‘A farmer went out to plant seeds.  
  
 ‘And as he was planting, some fell by the road,  
 Which were walked on, and birds came to eat them.  
  
 6‘Others fell among rocks,  
 Where they dried up after they sprouted,  
 Because there was too little water.  
  
 7‘Still others fell among thorns,  
 Which grew and then choked them out.  
  
 8‘But some fell on the good soil and grew,  
 Producing fruit 100 times more.’  
  
And after he said this, he shouted:  
  
 ‘Let those who have ears to hear, listen to me!’  
  
9Well, his disciples later asked him what this parable meant. 10So he said:  
  
 ‘While you’ve been allowed to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, the rest of these people just hear the stories. So when they look, they look in vain, and when they hear, they don’t understand.  
  
 11‘Now, the illustration means this:  
  
 ‘The seeds are the word of God.  
  
 12‘Those [that fall] by the road are people who listen, but then the Slanderer comes and snatches the word from their hearts, so they don’t believe and come to salvation.  
  
 13‘Those which fall on the rocks are the ones who hear and welcome the word with joy... But because they don’t have any roots, they only believe for a season. So, when a time of testing comes along, they fall away.  
  
 14‘As for those which fall among the thorns... These are the ones who’ve heard, but because of their daily concerns such as [seeking] wealth and the pleasures of living, they’re choked out and fail to produce any fruit.  
  
 15‘However, [those which fall] on the good soil have good and pure hearts. And after hearing the Word, they remember it and keep on bearing fruit.  
  
 16‘Understand that nobody lights a lamp and then covers it with a pot, or hides it under a bed… They put it on a lampstand so that those who step in can see by the light.  
  
 17‘So there’s nothing hidden that won’t be shown,  
 Or nothing covered that won’t be known,  
 And then brought out in the light.  
  
 18‘So pay attention to the way that you listen...  
 For those who have will be given more.  
 But as for those who have nothing,  
 What they think they have will be taken away from them.’  
  
19It was then that [Jesus’] mother and brothers came to see him, but they were unable to reach him because of the crowd.  
  
20So someone came up to him and said:  
  
 ‘Your mother and brothers are waiting outside and [they] want to see you.’  
  
21But he replied:  
  
 ‘My mother and brothers are these that hear the word of God and obey it.’  
  
  
  
22Well, some days later, [Jesus] and his disciples got into a boat, and he said to them:  
  
 ‘Let’s cross over to the other side of the lake.’  
  
So they set off... 23And as they were sailing along, he fell asleep.  
  
But then a violent windstorm came down on the lake, and the boat started taking on water, putting them in a dangerous situation.  
  
24So [the disciples] went over and woke Jesus up and said:  
  
 ‘Lord… Lord… We’re about to drown!’  
  
Then when he awoke, he scolded the wind and the raging water, which made things suddenly become very calm and peaceful.  
  
25And then he asked them:  
  
 ‘Where is your faith?’  
  
Well, they were frightened and awestruck [by what had happened], and they started asking each other:  
  
 ‘Who really is this? For he even orders the wind and waves and they obey him!’  
  
  
  
26Then from there, they sailed on to the country of the GeraSenes, which is on the shore directly across from Galilee.  
  
27And when he stepped out on land, a demonized man came from the city to meet him. This man hadn’t worn clothing for some time, and he didn’t live in a house, for he stayed among the tombs.  
  
28And when he saw Jesus, he screamed and fell down in front of him, shouting:  
  
 ‘What dealings do I have with you, Jesus, you Son of the Most High God?  
 I beg you… Don’t torment me!’  
  
29([He said this, because Jesus] had ordered the unclean spirit to come out of the man).  
  
[This man had been] arrested repeatedly, then bound with chains and leg irons and put under guard... But he would break the chains, and the demons forced him to [live in] such isolated places.  
  
30So Jesus asked him:  
  
 ‘What’s your name?’  
  
And they replied:  
  
 ‘Legion’ (because many demons had entered him).  
  
31And they kept begging him not to order them to go away into the abyss.  
  
32Well at the time, a large herd of pigs happened to be feeding there on the mountain; so they begged [Jesus] to allow them to go into [the pigs]… And he gave them permission.  
  
33Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the whole herd ran down a steep drop-off into the lake and drowned!  
  
34Well, when the herders saw this, they ran and reported what had happened throughout the whole city and countryside. 35As a result, the people all came to see this. When they got to Jesus, they found the man whom the demons had left now wearing clothes and in his right mind – [sitting] there at Jesus’ feet… And this frightened them.  
  
  
36Then those who had witnessed what had happened explained to the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. 37And the huge number [of people] who had come from the surrounding area started begging [Jesus] to leave them, because they were so frightened!  
  
So, he stepped back into the boat to return [to the other side of the lake].  
  
38However, the man whom the demons had left started begging [Jesus] to let him go back with him. But he sent the man away, saying:  
  
 39‘Just go home and tell everyone about all the things that God has done for you.’  
  
So the man went back and spread the word about what Jesus had done throughout the whole city.  
  
  
  
40Meanwhile, a crowd was waiting for Jesus when he got back [to the other side], because they were all expecting him.  
  
41And {Look!} a man named JaiRus (who was a presiding officer of the [local] synagogue) came to him and fell at Jesus’ feet, begging him to come to his home, 42because his only daughter (who was about 12 years old) was dying.  
  
Well, as he was on his way [to the man’s house], the people were all crowded closely around him, 43and a woman who had [been experiencing] a blood flow for some 12 years (which no one had been able to cure) 44came up behind him and touched the fringe of his robe… And her flow of blood stopped instantly!  
  
45So Jesus asked:  
  
 ‘Who touched me?’  
  
Well, everyone denied it. And Peter said:  
  
 ‘Master, there’s a whole crowd of people around you [and they’re all] touching you!’  
  
46But Jesus said:  
  
 ‘Someone else touched me, because I felt the power flowing out of me.’  
  
47So, seeing that [what she did] didn’t go unnoticed, the woman came up and fell down in front of Jesus trembling, then she told everyone why she touched him and of how she’d been healed instantly.  
  
48So [Jesus] said to her:  
  
 ‘Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go your own way in peace.’  
  
49Then as he was still talking, someone came up beside the presiding officer of the synagogue and said:  
  
 ‘Your daughter has died, so don’t bother the teacher anymore.’  
  
50But when he heard this, Jesus said to the man:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid; just have faith and she’ll be saved.’  
  
51Well when he got to the man’s house, he wouldn’t let anyone go inside with him other than Peter, John, James, and the girl’s father and mother. 52Meanwhile, [outside] the people were all crying and beating themselves in grief over her. So he said to them:  
  
 ‘Stop crying! The girl isn’t dead, she’s just sleeping.’  
  
53Then they all started laughing at him, because they all knew that she’d died. 54But thereafter, he went inside and took her by the hand and called her, saying:  
  
 ‘Child, get up!’  
  
55And at that, she started breathing and she stood up! Then he ordered that she be given something to eat.  
  
56Well, they were beside themselves [with joy]… But he warned them not to tell anyone what happened.