

Marine View Church Sermon-Based Small Groups
Week of February 3, 2008
Luke 8:4-15 – The Sower

Starting Together

- If you have new group members, introduce yourselves to one another.
- How do you do at growing things? Do you have a “green thumb,” or is yours more yellow or brown?

Studying Together

- Read aloud the passage: Luke 8:4-15. What insight is particularly meaningful to you from this week’s text or message?
- In Jesus’ story and explanation, what does the seed represent? How does one receive this seed?
- Jesus’ story speaks of a farmer sows who his seed on four types of soil. In your own words, summarize with examples what each of these types of soil represents:
 - *Path*
 - *Rock*
 - *Thorns*
 - *Good Soil*
- What is revealed about the heart and intentions of the farmer by the way in which he scatters his seed? What might this reveal about God?
- How does this story give a place for both divine sovereignty and human responsibility?

Living Together

- Which type of soil best describes how you first heard the word of God? How would you describe the soil of your life today?
- What fruit has the seed or word of God produced in your life? Give examples.
- What helps you not only to receive God’s word but also to retain it until it bears fruit in your life? What is one concrete thing you can do this week to retain and apply God’s word in your daily life?
- How does Jesus’ story instruct you to sow the seed of God’s word with others?

Praying Together

- **Application:** Ask for God’s help in applying today’s passage to your life.
- **Personal requests:** How can this group pray for you?
- **Ministry (within the church):** Pray for the Building & Grounds Committee that is seeking God’s way forward in light of structural issues in our East Campus.
- **Outreach (to the world):** Pray for Marine View’s ministry in Guatemala. Ask God to work through our church to supply the funds for 90 stoves to be installed in the mountain village of Yuljobe.