Intro: Tonite look at one of the most famous parables in the NT
Parable of Sower: Luke 8:4-15
Parable: Lit = a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels.

4 Different Kinds Of Spiritual People
One Similarity: How They Handle The Word Of God

1. People With Hard Spiritual Hearts! Path
   - Hear it
   - Don’t embrace it: Mix the word with faith:
   - Evil one steals it away: Lit = to lift up and take away
   - Not saved: Lit = Not rescued from spiritual danger
Illus: Donnie Johns: First time I saw it stolen away!

2. People Without Roots or Depth: No Roots
   - Receive it with joy: Receive: Lit = To accept and to understand
   - Have no root: Lit = Don’t let it penetrate their life or heart: Shallow faith
   - Testing: Lit = Adversity, temptation; to put to the test
   - Fall away: Lit = to withdraw, fall away, stand off and lose interest
Illus: People who fall away
   Pastors who fall away: Conversation just last week!

3. People Choked Out: Thorns
   - Hear it
   - Embrace it:
   - Choked out: Lit =
     ~Worries
     ~Riches
     ~Pleasures
   - Do not mature: Lit =
Illus: Seen Success destroy just as many Christians as trials
   In fact: When Trials DON’T WORK: Success is the next SOP

4. Fruitful: People With Good Soil:
   - Hear it
   - Retain it
   - Persevere: Lit =
     Through ALL of the above! Stolen away; Worries, Riches, Pleasures
   - Good Crop: Fruitful: Synoptics: 30, 60, 100 fold
     ~Fruit of Spirit in YOUR life: Transformation You become more like Jesus
     ~Spiritual Fruit: Reproduction: Others coming to Jesus through you:

CONCL: Which of the 4 are you tonight?
Are you Hearing?
Are you Embracing?
Are you Retaining?
Are you Persevering?
Are you Producing Fruit: In You And In Others?

Communion

As We close: No one lights a candle and puts it under basket
My prayer for you:
   ~Be personally transformed internally Go BE the light of Jesus
   ~Be reproducing in others Go BE ready to give a reason for the hope within you!