

*** Read Luke 8:16–25.**

*** Review Luke 8:1–15.**

The Parable of the Sower and the first two sections of this week’s passage emphasize the proclaiming of God’s word and people’s response to it.¹ As you read, look for this emphasis.

*** Reread Luke 8:16–18.**

1. What is the purpose of a lamp?

Why is it ridiculous to hide or cover it?

2. The light spoken of in verse 16 is Jesus’ teaching.² So...
...what would it mean to “hide[] it in a clay jar or put[] it under a bed” (v. 16)?

...what would it mean to “put[] it on a stand” (v. 16)?

...and what would it mean for others to “see the light” (v. 16)?

3. Reread Luke 8:10. According to that verse, what has been “given” to the disciples that is still hidden from the people?

How will this soon “be known or brought out into the open” (v. 17) more fully? (Mt. 28:18–20; Lk. 24:44–48; Col. 1:25–26)

4. As the “light” (v. 16) of Jesus’ teaching shines and spreads, what else is “brought out into the open” (v. 17)? (Lk. 2:34–35a; 12:2–3; Jn. 3:19–21)

“If believers do not hide the **light** (message) they have heard (vv. 8, 15, 18) but proclaim it for others to **see**, then what is **hidden** (cf. v. 10) will **be made manifest**, and what is **secret** will **come to light**. Jesus is ultimately speaking about the final judgment, but gospel proclamation and gospel ministry in this age are like a “lamp” (v. 16) that illumines and drives away dark areas of sin before the final judgment.”³

* Read Luke 8:18–21.

5. What admonition does Jesus give in 18a?
6. How does Jesus describe the person who listens well? (Lk. 8:15, 21; Jas. 1:22–25; * Lk. 6:47–49; 11:27–28)

Jesus and His Family
“Jesus’ reply [to the news that his family had come] was not meant to reject his natural family but to emphasize the higher priority of his spiritual relationship to those who believed in him... .”⁴

The person who “has” (v. 18b) is one who “listen[s] to [Jesus] with a believing, surrendered and obedient heart, [and who] will be given a deeper and more intensive insight into the spiritual life and into His Word”⁵ (compare the “good soil” in 8:15). In other words, as Alfred Plummer explains it, “Whoever gives a welcome to the word and appropriates it becomes worthy and capable of receiving more. But by not appropriating truth when we recognise it, we lose our hold of it, and have less power of recognizing it in the future.”⁶

7. What encouraging picture does Paul give in Colossians 1:9–12 of the “more” that is given to the person who “has” (v. 18b)?

*** Read Luke 8:22–25.**

This miracle is the first in a series of miracles that “shows Jesus’ power and authority in ever-increasing spheres. ... Luke keeps the question of Jesus’ identity center stage.”⁷

8. In what situation do the disciples—several of them experienced fishermen—find themselves in verse 23? (Compare Mt. 8:24.)
9. In desperation, they wake the sleeping Jesus.
 - a. What does he do? (v. 24; compare Mk. 4:39.)
 - b. What happens?
10. Jesus asks the disciples, “Where is your faith?” (v. 25). How do you think they would have responded to their danger if their faith had been stronger?
11. The disciples don’t bother to answer Jesus’ question. Their minds are filled with a question of their own: “Who is this?” (v. 25).
 - a. Look up the following verses, and jot down some notes.
Ps. 65:5–8a

Ps. 107:25–30

b. Given the power Jesus has just displayed, what is the answer to the disciples' question?

12. In the words of his teaching Jesus demonstrates authority; in the words he uses to still the storm he demonstrates great power. Consider Jesus' question for yourself: Where is your faith?

a. First think about this question in the ultimate sense—where have you placed your faith for your salvation?

b. Then think about it in terms of your day-to-day life—where do you place your faith when something small goes wrong?

when something big goes wrong?

How about when things go right?

c. Pray and ask to be “given more” (v. 18). Ask that God would deepen your faith and your understanding. You may even wish to pray for yourself Paul’s prayer in Colossians 1:9–12:

“For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.”

*📖 For further study

¹ Darrell L. Bock, *Luke, Volume 1: 1:1—9:50* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1994), 716.

² Sources:

Warren W. Wiersbe. *An Exposition on the New Testament Comprising the Entire “BE” Series: The Bible Exposition Commentary* (Wheaton: SP Publications, Inc., 1989), 201.

Bock, 742.

³ Lane T. Dennis, ed., *ESV Study Bible* (Wheaton: Crossway Bibles, 2008), 1968, note on Lk. 8:16–18.

⁴ Kenneth L. Barker, ed. *NIV Study Bible, 2008 Update* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1985), 1582, note on Lk. 8:21.

⁵ Norvel Geldenhuys. *The Gospel of Luke: The New International Commentary on the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1951), 248.

⁶ Quoted in Geldenhuys, 248, note 2.

⁷ Bock, 715.