

New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA

2525 N. Buckner Blvd., Dallas, TX 75228

www.NCPCDallas.org NCPCDallas@aol.com (214) 321-6435

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Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:10-11

*Hymn No. 26 *A Mighty Fortress*

*Invocation

Scripture Responsive Luke 8:4-8

The Anthem

*Doxology

Morning Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

OBSTACLES TO CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Luke 8:1-15

Introduction

The Parable Told

*Hymn No. 481 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

The Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon Continued

The Parable Explained

Morning Prayer

Hymn No. 435 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (vs. 3)

Sermon Concluded

Obstacles to Maturity

Song or Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*
(refrain)

*Postlude

OBSTACLES TO CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Luke 8:1-15

I. Introduction: (1-3)

II. The Parable Told (4-8)

- A. Seed fell on the path and is trampled - birds ate it.
- B. Seed fall on rock and withers due to no moisture.
- C. Seed fell among the thorns – and were choked out.
- D. Seed feel upon good soil – yielded a crop.

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear”

III. The Parable Explained. (9-15)

- A. Seed = the Word of God.
- B. Path = those who hear but the devil comes along and takes away the Word so they do not believe and they are not saved.
- C. Rock = those who hear the Word and receive it with joy. Yet there is no root and when they are tested, they fall away and are not saved.
- D. Among thorns = those who hear and believe and begin to grow. Yet the worries, riches, and pleasures keep them from maturing.
- E. Among good soil = those who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

IV. A look at the obstacles to Christian maturity.

- A. The Devil (12)
- B. Testing (life) (13)
- C. Worries (14)
- D. Riches (14)
- E. Pleasures (14)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:10-11

*Hymn No. 26

A Mighty Fortress

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe—
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide our striving would be losing,
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He—
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same—
and He must win the battle.

And tho this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph thru us.

The prince of darkness grim— we tremble not for Him;
His rage we can endure; for lo! his doom is sure—
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours thru Him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still—
His kingdom is forever.

*Invocation

Scripture Responsive

Luke 8:4-8

⁴ While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: ⁵“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up

and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.”

When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

The Anthem

*Doxology

Morning Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

OBSTACLES TO CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Luke 8:1-15

Introduction

The Parable Told

*Hymn No. 481

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes—illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, ev'rything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God,
Thy will to see; open my ears—illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere. Open my heart and let me prepare – love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see; open my heart—illumine me, Spirit divine!

The Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon Continued

The Parable Explained

Morning Prayer

Hymn No. 435

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

(vs. 3)

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Sermon Concluded

Obstacles to Maturity

Song or Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*
(refrain)

But I know whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed Unto Him against that day.

*Postlude