



The Blessing of Proof!

Lesson 10

God does **not** want you to hear His Word preached and taught today!

He **does** want you to _____ His Word today!

Doers of the Word Know How to Hupakouw:

#1 An Initial Spiritual Skill: EXPECT to Hear from God and Not Just a Man!

Who we expect to hear determines how we will listen!

#2 A Foundational Spiritual Skill: ADMIT God Knows Better than We Do!

When it comes to listening to a sermon, the best hearing aid is a humbled (submissive) heart!

#3 A Critical Spiritual Skill: CHECK What Is Heard with the Bible!

Learn to discern: Be diligent to check the spoken word of men with the written Word of God!

Come with an open mind but don't check your brains at the door!

#4 A Counter-Cultural Spiritual Skill: COME TOGETHER to Hear the Lord Speak on His Day!

First things first: Listening with God's people is a priority for those who hupakouw!

#5 A Practical Spiritual Skill: LISTEN WEEKLY Not Weakly!

Discipline yourself to diligently listen week-by-week to be a stronger Christ follower.

#6 An Essential Spiritual Skill: _____ of the Word and Not a Hearer Only!

Be a doer of the Word to be blessed in your hearing!

"But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves." James 1:22 NAS

"Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear!" MSG

Being a Doer of the Word Is Essential Because...

1. The Burden of Proof Is On Us to Show We Really Know How to Hupakouw. James

► Doers prove they hupakouw by how they _____ their hearts to receive God's Word. (1:21)

1) **Doers** prepare their hearts for _____ to God's Word. 1 Peter 2:1-3

Doers of the Word Know How to Get Dressed for Church:

• _____ all impurity and rebellious attitudes.

• _____ a pure and submissive attitude.

2) **Hearers** prove their lack of preparation by listening with hearts cluttered with _____.
James 3:13-18

► Doers prove they hupakouw by going beyond listening to lasting _____. (1:22-25)

- 1) **Doers** realize that hearing does not equal doing, anymore than knowledge _____ equals a life changed.
- 2) **Hearers** who only listen and never change are only _____ themselves that they actually hupakouw. (1:23-25)

- The Warning of Self-Deception (v. 22)
- The Illustration of Using a Mirror (vv. 23-24)

What Is the Point of Looking at Our Natural Face in a Mirror?

Three Things “Hearers Only” Quickly Forget:

- 1) How much _____.
- 2) How much _____.
- 3) How much _____.

Why Is It Called the Perfect Law of Liberty?

“Come to hear them, not out of curiosity, but from a sincere desire to know and do your duty. TO enter His House merely to have our ears entertained, and not our hearts reformed, must certainly be highly displeasing to the Most High God, as well as unprofitable to ourselves.”
~George Whitfield

- **Doers** prove they hupakouw by doing the _____ that hearers only talk about. (1:26-27)
- 1) **Doers** know that personal application of God’s Word always leads to compassionate _____ to others.
 - 2) **Hearers** sit and make suggestions from the _____. (2:15-16)

2. The Blessing of Proof Is from God on Those Who Really Do Hupakouw. James 1:25

“...and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

“If you would hear the word aright, practice what you hear.... Hearing only will be no plea at the day of judgment—merely to say, “Lord, I have heard many sermons.” God will say, “What fruits of obedience have you brought forth?” The word preached is not only to inform you but reform you... If you hear the word, and are not bettered by it...your hearing will increase your condemnation.... We pity such as know not where to hear; it will be worse with such as care not how they hear. To graceless disobedient hearers, every sermon will be hot coal to heat hell. It is ad to go loaded to hell with [commands]. Oh, beg the Spirit to make the word preached effectual! Ministers can speak to the ear, the Spirit speaks to the heart.” ~Thomas Watson, The Ten Commandments

Spiritual Skill #6 Be a Doer of the Word and Not a Hearer Only!

Be a doer of the Word to be blessed in your hearing!

- Prove you hupakouw by preparing your heart to receive God’s Word.
- Prove you hupakouw by going beyond listening to lasting life-change.
- Prove you hupakouw by doing the good works that hearers only talk about.