



Listen Like Your Life Depends On It! Part 1

Lesson 11

How would you listen...

if you knew your very life depended on what the other person was saying?

How would you listen...

if you knew this would be the last message you ever heard before you died?

The Conclusion to the Greatest Sermon in the Bible ~ Matthew 7:21-29

"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' **THEREFORE** whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."
~Jesus, Matthew 7:21-25

Two Observations from the Conclusion of Greatest Sermon in the Bible:

- **Why** we listen is clear: We listen in order to _____.
- **How** we listen is vital: Listening is a matter of _____.

#7 A Vital Spiritual Skill: Listen _____ Depends On It... It Does!

Listening is a matter of life and death!

A Repeated Warning in the Bible: "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion!"

- The Old Testament Warning: *Psalms 95*
- The New Testament Warning: *Hebrews 3:7-4:13; 2:1-4*

Listen Like Your Life Depends on It...

1. Listen _____ . "Today, if you hear His voice..."

- Today is _____ we hear the preaching of God's Word and the leading of God's Spirit.
- Today is never too late until it is _____ . *Hebrews 12:15-17; 9:27-28*

"Remember that you have but a little time to hear in; and you do not know whether you will ever hear again. Hear therefore as if it were your last. Think when you hear the calls of God and the offers of grace, for all I know this may be my last: how would I hear if I were sure to die tomorrow? I am sure it will not be that far off, and may be today for all I know." ~Richard Baxter

- What should we do? _____ again and again

"Repentance means turning from as much as you know of your sin to give as much as you know of yourself to as much as you know of your God, and as our knowledge grows at these three points so our practice of repentance has to be enlarged." ~J. I. Packer

"The decision we may have made yesterday is proved genuine by the fact that we do the same turning of the heart today." ~Christopher Ash

2. Listen _____ . "Today, if you hear His voice; do not harden...as in the rebellion."

- Do not harden means we _____ versus not responding or refusing. 2 Timothy 3:16

"Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way." ~The Message

- 1) _____: *What did I learn today that I need to remember and meditate on?*
- 2) _____: *Where do I fall short in what I am hearing today?*
- 3) _____: *What corrections need to be made today?*
- 4) _____: *What is one thing I can begin doing today to make this a consistent part of my life?*

- What should we do? Ask God to _____ our hearts and help us _____ what we hear.
Luke 24:45; Acts 16:14; James 1:5; 3:13-18

"You must give an account for every sermon you hear...The judge to whom we must give an account is God...how should we observe every word preached, remembering the account! Let all this make us shake off distraction and drowsiness in hearing, and have our ears chained to the word." ~Thomas Watson

"Remember that all these days and sermons must be reviewed, and you must answer for all that you have heard, whether you heard it with love, or with unwillingness and weariness, with diligent attention or with carelessness; and the word which you hear shall judge you at the last day. Hear therefore as those that are going to judgment to give an account of their hearing and obeying." ~Richard Baxter

NEXT WEEK

The Final *TWO WAYS* to Listen Like Our Lives Depend on it!