



# Listen Weekly Not Weakly!

Lesson 9

- Listening to sermons is not a *spectator sport*!
- What is *hupakouw* and how do you do it? It is *placing* yourself under the preaching of God's Word for the *purpose* of *obeying* what you hear!

- It is "practicing" in your relationship with your heavenly Father what you "preach" to your children as a parent: "Be quick to hear, quick to obey from the *heart*!"
- It is hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and obeying it by turning from our sins to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior in order to be forgiven of our sins and receive a *new heart* from God!
- It is *how* we should listen to the Bible being preached or taught in order to *please God* with an *obedient response*!
- It is \_\_\_\_\_ that requires the spiritual power of the Holy Spirit and the personal discipline of us as believers who have ears to hear.

## #5 \_\_\_\_\_ Not Weakly!

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

### Those Who Want to Hupakouw Weekly Not Weakly:

1. Listen to God's Word Week-by-Week with \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:24-25

*"Congregations never honor God more than by reverently listening to His Word with a full purpose of praising and obeying Him once they see what He has done and is doing, and what they are called to do." ~J. I. Packer*

*"Reverently and responsively listening to God's Word preached is one of the highest forms of honoring and worshipping God." ~Don Whitney*

*"Extreme ways are back again...I would stand in line for this. There is always room in life for this." ~Moby*

### Listening Week-by-Week with Disciplined Consistency...

- Fuels the fires of \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Timothy 4:6-10
- Leaves a clear path for others to \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Timothy 4:6
- Reveals our faith in God's sovereign promise that His spoken Word will \_\_\_\_\_ accomplish His intended purpose in our lives. Isaiah 55:11; Ephesians 5:25
- Fulfills the two great commandments by listening and learning out of \_\_\_\_\_ for God and others and not just self. Matthew 22:37-39

## 2. Listen to God's Word Week-by-Week with \_\_\_\_\_ . Acts 20:7-12

*"It is required of those that hear the Word preached that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation and prayer; examine what they hear by the scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate, and confer of it; hid it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives." ~Westminster Confession Larger Catechism*

### Seven Suggestions for Listening Week-by-Week with Diligent Commitment...

- Diligently prepare for Sunday on \_\_\_\_\_.

*"We are told men ought not to preach without preparation. Granted. But we add, men ought not to hear without preparation. Which, do you think, needs the most preparation, the sower or the ground? I would have the sower come with clean hands, but I would have the ground well-plowed and harrowed, well-turned over, and the clods broken before the seed comes in. It seems to me that there is more preparation needed by the ground than by the sower, more by the hearer than by the preacher." ~C. H. Spurgeon*

- 1) Get a good night's rest just as you would for a school night or before an important day at work.
- 2) Lay out your clothes, your Bible, and your giving envelope the night before.
- 3) Don't leave ministry preparation or study until the night before.
- 4) Pray for the Spirit to work through the night and give good rest to our pastors, teachers, and ministry servants.
- 5) Confess any sins you have overlooked or refused to address during the week.
- 6) Make things right with those you have sinned against and forgive those who have sinned against you.

- Diligently prepare for listening on Sunday by \_\_\_\_\_ through the spiritual skills required to hupakouw before arriving to church.

- #1 Father God, in the name of Jesus Christ your Son and my Sovereign Savior, I expect to hear from You this morning and not just from men.
- #2 Father, I admit that You know better than I do about all things in this life and the one to come! You know better what I need to hear today and everyday, so I am all ears today and will obey whatever You say to me today through Your word and Spirit.
- #3 Father, as we come together right now over Your Son on His day, help me to listen not just for me but also for our church family. Help me to encourage someone to apply what is taught and preached today.
- #4 Father, I thank you for the awesome privilege of hearing Your Word preached on a weekly basis! I dedicate myself afresh to diligently discipline myself to hupakouw weekly and not weakly to be a stronger Christ follower!

- Diligently arrive 10 minutes \_\_\_\_\_ to greet and encourage others, get settled in, and be focused on what is about to be taught or preached!

- Diligently fight off all \_\_\_\_\_ and seek to not be a distraction to others.

- Diligently \_\_\_\_\_ during the sermon and mark your Bible.

- Diligently write down at least one \_\_\_\_\_ step you will take this week to really hupakouw!

- Diligently be apart of an \_\_\_\_\_ where you can share what you are learning and have others help you to apply.

- 1) Ask what others got out of the message or lesson or Discovery Hour lesson.
- 2) How did God personally speak to your heart?
- 3) What steps do you think you will have to take to make changes?
- 4) How can I pray for you about that?
- 5) Spend time in prayer thanking God for the preaching of His Word, asking the Spirit to help apply what you heard, and for Christ to continue working in the hearts of everyone who heard the word that day (believers and unbelievers).

## Spiritual Skill #5 Listen Weekly Not Weakly!

*Discipline yourself to be diligent in listening week-by-week to be a stronger Christ follower.*

- **What gets in the way of your coming to hear God speak through the preached Word on a consistent basis?** Whatever or whoever it is, is it of greater value to you than the Lord Jesus, His Bride the Church, and God's life-changing Word? What help does *1 Thessalonians 1:9-10* offer? *"...you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come."*
- **Which of the seven ways to be more diligent in listening to God's Word week-by-week do you need to work on?** Ask the indwelling Holy Spirit to help you work on one or two in the weeks to come.
- **Does the challenge of weekly disciplining yourself to diligently listen to God speak through the preached word seem overwhelming?** How does Paul's words of encouragement offer you hope to keep on week-by-week? *"Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; 8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance."*
- **Do you think Eutychus ever fell asleep during preaching again?** Why or why not?