

Listen Up

Jesus Exposé – Part 4 Luke 8:1-15 January 24, 2020

Pastor Todd Schlechty

Q: How well do you listen to Jesus?

I. Fans Vs. Followers. (Vs. 8:1-4)

Luke 8:1-4 Soon afterwards, He began going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. The twelve were with Him, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who were contributing to their support out of their private means. 4 When a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable:

II. Followers Listen. (Vs. 5-15)

Luke 8:5-15 "The sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed. some fell beside the road, and it was trampled under foot and the birds of the air ate it up. 6 Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. 7 Other seed fell among the thorns; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out. 8 Other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great." As He said these things, He would call out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." 9 His disciples began questioning Him as to what this parable meant. 10 And He said, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is in parables, so that SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND. 11 Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God. 12 Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. 13 Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their

way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity. 15 But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

Four Ways To Listen to God's word. (According to Jesus)

- 1. Ignore it.
- 2. Give God's Word just a little space.
- 3. Make God's Word a low priority.
- 4. Let it in.

Luke 8:18 "So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

Point: How you listen will determine how far you go with Jesus.

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Have you ever really, intentionally listened to Jesus' words? How well do you listen to Him? How hard do you listen to Him? How often do you listen to Him?



- 2. When (or how) do you find it most instructive to listen to Jesus' words?
- 3. When it comes to God's word which is your most common response? (A) Ignore it? (B) Give it little space in your life? (C) Give it a low priority in your schedule? Or (D) Receive it and allow it to sink deeply into your heart and mind?
- 4. How would you describe your spiritual life right now? (A) Dead? (B) Dry? (C) Choked? (D) Alive and Bearing Fruit?
- 5. What would it look like for you to learn to listen to God's word?