
Listening to God as the Foundation of Our Lives

**Luke 8:4-18, Matthew 7:24-26,
John 10:27-30, Romans 10:17 and
other selected Scripture.**

Pastor Nick Lee / Sept 23, 2023



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4 Types of Soil

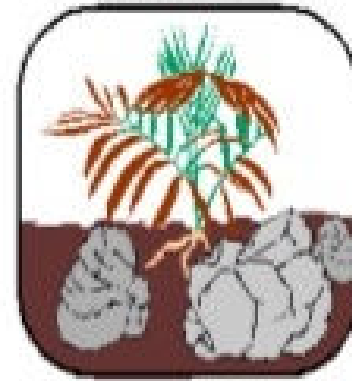
A Sower Went Out to Sow

Pathway :

- trampled on
- birds ate it up
- ~ **Destroyed** ~



packed soil



stony ground

Rocky :

- not rooted ;
- sun-scorched
- ~ **Withered away** ~

Thorny:

- choked
- suffocated
- ~ **Died** ~



Good Soil :

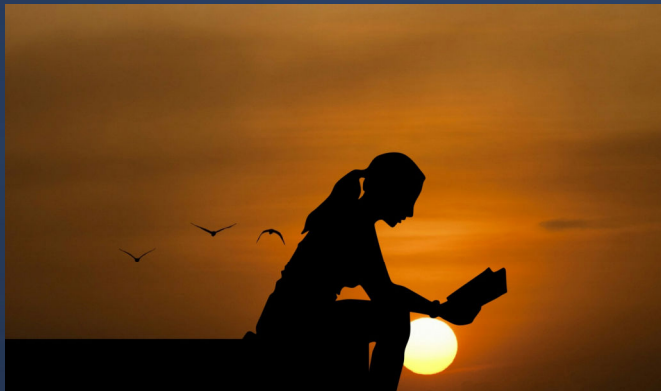
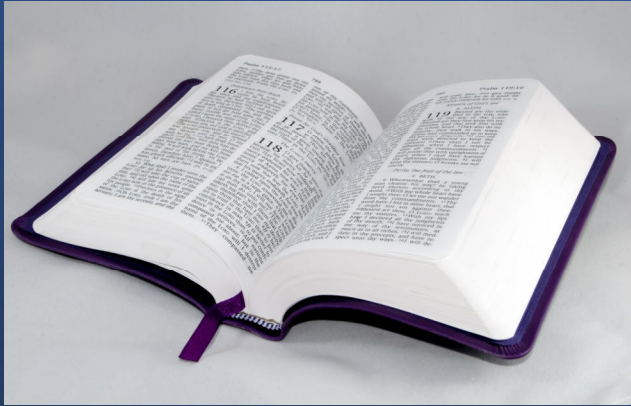
- grew up,
- increased,
- yielded
- ~ **Fruitful** ~



Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given, and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him.
Luke 8:18 (NKJV)

The more we hear, the more we get
(God speaks).

*Converse- principle here about our hearts





Building a life on a solid foundation.

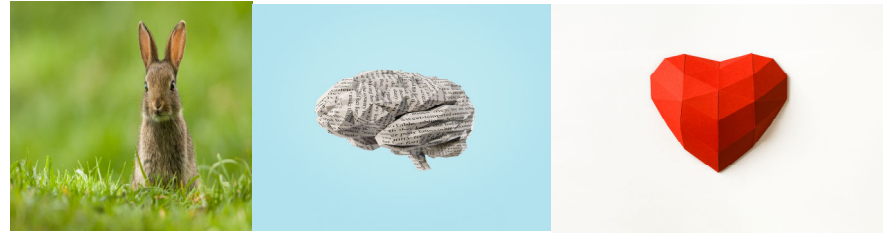


Whoever hears these sayings of Jesus **AND does them** is a like a **wise man** who *built his house on the rock.* When the rain descended , the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of Jesus and **does not put them into practice** is like a **foolish man** who *built his house on sand.*
Matthew 7:24-26 (NKJV)



Hearing

- Receiving sound waves through your ears.
- Hearing is part of the 5 senses, it happens unless you actively block it out.
- Passive Process often requires no concentration or attention.



Listening

- Hearing and understanding what you hear.
- ..
- Listening is a choice to hear and analyze (meditate on) what you hear.
- Active Process which requires concentration, empathy, curiosity, and motivation.

Hearing is noise and sounds coming to your ears, it is a physiological act of hearing sounds. Listening is to pay attention to the sound, and to give thoughtful consideration. The goal of listening is to understand. A listening ear leads to an understanding heart. Listening is a loud form of kindness.

-Pastor Wade Martin Hughes Sr.

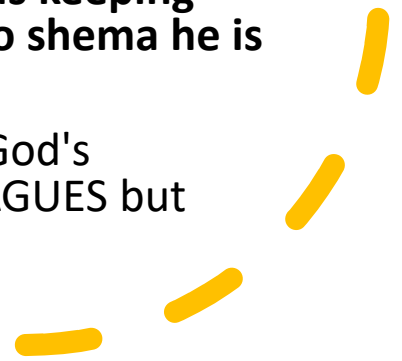
Greek words and a Hebrew Word for "hear"

GREEK

- AKOUO: To hear. / AKOE: Hearing.
- HUPAKOUO: To listen attentively. This word can be used in the sense to submit or obey.
- ENOTIZONAI: To take in one's ear, to hearken. (Matthew 7:24: Whoever hears these sayings of Jesus and DOES THEM.)

HEBREW

- Shema: Hear or listen. You will also often see verses where it is repeated **shema shema (Listen Closely- from God's point of view is basically the same as keeping covenant. So when God asks the people to shema he is basically asking them to listen AND obey.**
- Used in Exodus with Pharaoh- who heard God's messenger but also through MULTIPLE PLAGUES but refused to listen.



*“Not My will,
but Your will
be done!”*



Whether the word: hear or listen is used the author of these words should cause us to have a posture of obedience.

-Pastor Nick Lee

The image features two dogs, likely Cocker Spaniels, against a dark background. The dog on the right is looking directly at the camera with its mouth open and tongue hanging out. The dog on the left is partially visible, looking towards the camera. A white silhouette of a dog's head is overlaid on the dark background, positioned between the two dogs. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

FINDING THE WORD FOR OBEDIENCE

A missionary translator was endeavoring to find a word for obedience in the native language. This was a virtue seldom practiced among the people into whose language he wanted to translate the New Testament. As he returned home from the village one day, he whistled to his dog who came running at full speed. An old native, seeing this, said admiringly in the native tongue "Your dog is all ears." The missionary knew he had his word for obedience.

(27) My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

(28) And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand. (29) My Father who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. (30) I and My Father are one.

-John 10:27-30 (NKJV)





A look at John 10:27-30

- The context of John 10: Is that Jesus is both the true and Good Shepherd. He watches over & lays down his life for the sheep.
- Read verse 27: My sheep hear my voice (uh-oh?) and I know them and they follow Me. (John 10:10- the thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy).
- In 10:27-30 the phrase that is repeated twice: No one can snatch us out of the Father's hand (he says it twice) but really three times when in verse 30 Jesus says Him and the Father are one.
- In Luke 15 and Matthew 18 Jesus tells a parable about a shepherd who leaves in the fold to pursue the one sheep who had wandered away and this was in response to the Pharisees who were upset that Jesus "welcomes sinners and eats with them." (Luke 15:2).

SO FAITH COMES FROM
HEARING, AND HEARING
THROUGH THE WORD OF
CHRIST.

ROMANS 10:17



BUT WITHOUT FAITH
it is impossible to please Him,
FOR HE WHO COMES TO GOD
must believe that He is,
AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THOSE
who diligently seek Him.

HEBREWS 11:6

THREE "SAFE" ASSUMPTIONS

- It pleases God when we grow in our faith.
- Faith comes from hearing/reading the word of God.
- One of the ways God reveals His will to us is through His Word.



WHY Listen
to God?

Why do His
Will?



I want to do His will. (Heart).



**Because I believe His will is the
Best for me and better than my current
situation. (But do I?)
(Faith and Trust).**



Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves.
Do what it says.
James 1:22

The Will of God is revealed to the Heart this is
willing to obey!

-Pastor Stephen Han



Remember this when people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from light, the light continues to be bright in itself, but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God.

-Saint Augustine



10:52
No Caller ID



slide to answer