

## DO WE LISTEN WELL? Jeremiah 6:10

**Matthew 11:15** During His earthly ministry Jesus often concluded the lesson He was giving by saying “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.” See **Mt. 13:9, 13:43** concerning His parables.

**Revelation 2:7-29, 3:6-22** In His letters to the seven churches of Asia Jesus concluded His message with a similar saying: “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit sayeth to the churches.”

**Mark 4:23-25** The point that Jesus is trying to make with these sayings is this: “Pay attention to what is being said because it is very important and you have a responsibility to hear correctly and act on it.”

### THREE TYPES OF LISTENERS

**Hebrews 5:11** – “**The Dull Of Hearing**” Take notice that when a person has this type of hearing problem, it is hard for others to explain things to them. The problem is not the subject matter, nor is the problem the speaker, the issue is with the listener.

**Matthew 13:13-15** Jesus referred to the writings of Isaiah when He said that people are this way because they are dull of heart, they have a heart problem. This type of hearing prevents them from understanding God's truth. It also prevents them from repenting from sin and from being saved.

**II Timothy 4:3-4** – “**Those With Itching Ears**” Paul describes these type of listeners as those people that will only listen to preaching and teaching that pleases them rather than rebukes them. These type of listeners will go to the church and find the type of pastor that 'tickles' their ears but they will find themselves sooner or later believing a lie and trusting in false doctrine that denies the truth.

**II Timothy 4:2** They will not stay under the direction of the type of sound doctrine needed to grow.

**Luke 8:15** - “**An Honest And Good Heart**” Jesus describes these type of listeners as those that listen with an open and good heart willing to take from God what He wants them to have. After hearing sound doctrine they receive it and believe it and put their new knowledge to work producing fruit.

**Acts 17:11** The Berean believers were good listeners so they were more than willing to give Paul a fair hearing. Once they heard the word from Paul they studied their bible to compare what they had heard. They were not only good listeners but gladly received the word with a hungry heart and mind.

### BEING A GOOD LISTENER

**Matthew 13:16-17** As Jesus was teaching the disciples He encouraged them as good listeners because if we are believers that listen well we will hear and understand things that the prophets desired to hear and see but were not allowed to hear and understand many of the things we can know now.

**Ephesians 1:3-11** The difference between those that listen and hear with a good heart and those that don't are in these verses. Jesus has shown us the blessings we have because we chose to trust Him.

**Romans 10:13-17** God has ordained that people are saved through hearing and believing in the Gospel (good news). It is fact that many people do not get saved because they are poor listeners.

**Colossians 1:3-6** When we look at this church we can see that they “heard the word of the truth of the gospel” and that after they heard, they “brought forth fruit since the day they heard of it” (gospel).

**Hebrews 2:1-3** Notice that the word was passed on from the Lord, to the Apostles”then unto the writer of Hebrews to the believers who were hearing it by preaching and by the letter. Being good listeners will help keep us from “neglecting so great salvation.”

**Hebrews 4:1-2** We see in this verse that we must listen to His word with faith believing it is truth.

**James 1:22-25** When we listen with faith and believe we must show our faith in His word by actions.