

HOW TO HEAR GOD'S VOICE
"Learning to Hear God Speak" - 1

North Lake Presbyterian
January 8, 2012
Luke 8:14-15

"Jesus said. . . he who has ears to hear, let him hear."
Luke Chapter 8, verse 8)

- [] The Farmer. . . God
- [] The Seed. . . God's Word
- [] The Soil. . . . My Mind

HOW TO HEAR GOD SPEAK

1. Cultivate an Open Mind

" . . . Some seed fell along the path: it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up." Luke 8:5

"Those along the path are those who hear, and then the devil comes along and takes away the word from their hearts, so they cannot believe and be saved." Luke 8:12

The Hardened path is narrow and unertile. . . 3 Causes

- Pride
- Fear
- Bitterness

"Get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the Word planted in you, which can save you" James 1.21

2. Allocate Time to Listen

"Other seed fell on shallow soil with rock beneath. This seed began to grow but soon withered and died for lack of moisture." Luke 8: 6, Living Bible

"Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. they believe for awhile, but in the time of testing, they fall away." Luke 8:13

The Shallow Soil:

3. Eliminate Distractions

"Other seed fell among thorns which grew up with it and choked the plants." Luke 8:7

"The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way, are choked by life's worries, riches, and pleasures, and they don't mature .Luke 8:14

The Soil with weeds: Three Types of Weeds:

- Worries
- Riches
- Pleasures

4. Cooperate with What God Says

"The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the Word, retain it and by persevering produce a crop." Luke 8:15

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!" James 1.22

Questions for Groups and Classes

1. Go around the group and read aloud Luke 8:1-15.
2. What kind of luck have you had with growing things? Explain.
3. Who travels with Jesus? What strikes you about this crew?
4. How would this parable help the disciples better understand what is happening in their ministry?
5. In Jesus explanation of the parable, what is the seed?, the soils? The fruit, The farmer. What does it really mean to "hear?"
6. What kind of soil describes you now? . . . five years ago?
7. When it comes to hearing God right now, are you (a) locked in on the station? (b) Getting a lot of static? (c) Barely picking up a signal? Why?
8. What help do you get from this parable about sharing your faith?

SERIES: How to Hear God's Voice

- 1.8 Learning to Hear God Speak – Part # 1 (Luke 8:14-15)
- 1.15 How God Talks to Us – Part # 2 (Job 33:14)
- 1.22 Seven Ways to Test An Impression – Part # 3 (1 John 4:1)
- 1.29 How to Receive Guidance from God – Part # 4 (Habakkuk 2:1-2)