

Rediscover Jesus

Part 22: Listen to Do God's Word | Luke 8:16-21

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Listen to do God's Word to advance God's purposes in the world.

When we listen to do God's Word, it...

I. Reveals the gospel to others (vv. 16-17)

¹⁶ "No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. ¹⁷ For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.

Luke 8:15 = As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

Matthew 5:14-16 = "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. **In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.**

Matthew 10:27 = What I tell you in the *dark*, say in the *light*, and what you hear whispered, *proclaim* on the housetops.

Colossian 1:23, 25-26 (NIV) = ... This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.... I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.

Five ways to prepare the share the gospel with co-workers:¹

1. Be so good they can't ignore you
2. Be a friend
3. Identify yourself as a follower of Christ
4. Pray that God would open doors to move from the surface, to the serious, to the spiritual
5. Be prepared to give an answer for your hope

¹ Jordan Raynor, "5 Ways to Prepare to Share the Gospel with Co-Workers," November 1, 2021, in *The Word Before Work*, podcast, <https://jordanraynor.com/twbw/5-ways-to-prepare-to-share-the-gospel-with-co-workers>.

II. Reverberates in eternity (v. 18)

¹⁸ Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

New City Catechism 42

- Q: How is the Word of God to be read and heard?
- A: With diligence, preparation, and prayer; so that we may accept it with faith, store it in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Matthew 25:29-30 = For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. **And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**

1 John 4:19-21 = We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

III. Relates believers as Jesus' family (vv. 19-21)

¹⁹ Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. ²⁰ And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you." ²¹ But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

Life Application

1. What area of your life do you have trouble listening to do God's Word? Repent and hold fast to the gospel.
2. What next steps do you need to take to obey God's Word in that area? Ask a brother or sister in Christ who knows you well for their input and accountability.
3. Who are you intentionally helping to understand and apply God's Word? Reach out to them to have more intentional conversations about living out God's Word in all aspects of life.