

DECREASE FOR INCREASE Part 5 by Ps Larry Elliott

Ears to Hear

Mark 4:9 NKJV "And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!""

Listening needs to be active, it's an INTENTIONAL position.

Let's be sensitive so we can catch what God is REVEALING to us in our spirit.

When 2 ears are put side by side it forms the shape of a heart!



The word EAR is at the center of the word **Heart**



So the EAR is the way to someone's heart; if you want to build great relationships learn to listen.



If you want to keep growing spiritually and walk in God's ways learn to listen to Him.

Psalm 143:10 AMPC "Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; let Your good Spirit lead me into a level country and into the land of uprightness."



So we are talking about how to INCREASE our HEARING (properly and accurately) that will lead to BETTER understanding.



FIRSTLY:

You are complete In Christ, your spirit has been regenerated and you are able to HEAR and respond to God.

Colossians 2:10 NKJV "and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."



The Word is saying you are adequate to HEAR and serve God, you are in a place of strength.

LAST WEEK, we established for there to be a HARVEST (30, 60, 100) 4 things are to be present in the SOULS. (The SOIL of our HEART)

1. Listening Ear (Hearing)
2. Healthy Thought Life (Biblical thinking)
3. Life-Giving Words (Words)
4. Intentional Action (Vision)



We all want Vision (any one can set a goal or have things we set out to achieve) but VISION



speaks of a dream or revelation in our heart (PURPOSE) it's from God. [there are unsaved people who are fulfilled today because they learnt to listen to their inward being]

- 👂 So you see sometimes we struggle with VISION because we fail to HEAR what the Spirit is saying to US INWARDLY.
- 👂 AND for VISION to come to pass you have FAITH, so that you start speaking in FAITH, AND strong FAITH comes from hearing the Word. (Romans 10:17)
- 👂 LETS TALK ABOUT how can we fine tune our Listening and stay CONSISTENT in this!

A listening ear sows the Word into the heart of man, causing the Word to come ALIVE and FAITH TO GROW, I begin to SPEAK the VISION (Promise) I've received.

- 👂 All through the Bible our attention is continually drawn back to the importance of HOW WE LISTEN!

Mark 4:12 NKJV "so that 'seeing they may see and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand..."

- 🧐 This verse adds a further dimension and connects seeing and hearing!
 - Seeing is for **PERCEPTION** (Dreams and Vision)
 - Hearing is for **UNDERSTANDING** (Interpreting correctly and Knowing how and what to do)

- 👂 Three times in this parable Jesus speaks about the importance of the way we listen

Mark 4:24-25 NKJV Then He said to them, "Take heed what you hear. With the same **measure** {a vessel for receiving and determining quantity of things} you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him."

Let's take a look at an incredible example

It's the Life of Samuel

I Samuel 3:19 NKJV So Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground."

WHY: Because he GREW SENSITIVE and positioned himself in God's presence to HEAR the Lord, his WORDS carried weight.

A negative example of not hearing

Ezekiel 13:1-3 NKJV "And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own



heart, 'Hear the word of the LORD!' " Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing!

Ezekiel 13:7 NKJV Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination? You say, 'The LORD says,' but I have not spoken.'"

Back to Samuel:

I Samuel 3:1 NKJV "Now the boy Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation.

Samuel was already doing something:

Ministering to Lord by serving in the Temple (Local Church)

Submission to authority

No Vision (No Vision = No Clarity of Mind and Purpose, so people aren't hearing or responding in Faith towards God)

I Samuel 3:2-8 NKJV And it came to pass at that time, while Eli was lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so dim that he could not see, and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the LORD —where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down, that the LORD called Samuel. And he answered, "Here I am!" So he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." And he said, "I did not call; lie down again." And he went and lay down. Then the LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." (Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor was the word of the LORD yet revealed to him.) And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy.

- Symbolic of transition
- New Thing, therefore fresh leadership is needed, this produces New Vision (fresh perspective of Vision)
- LEARNING to HEAR CLEARLY is vital (Understanding)
- When you Hear something BE patient, ponder, meditate, focus BUT STAY obedient to what you are currently doing!

There's something else as well:

Matthew 25:29 NKJV "For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away."

ALWAYS BE faithful to what you are already doing!

Finish what you start (when I was released to start Rhema here, I was basically out of a job or my function had ended)



I Samuel 3:9-11 NKJV Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, '**Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.**' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "**Speak, for Your servant hears.**" Then the LORD said to Samuel: "Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

lie down:

- When things aren't happening don't panic, running around trying to fix it)
- REST
- Jesus is GRACE he went back 4 times until Samuel GOT IT, then He spoke to him.
- Wait on the Lord, become still (silence the noise)

The story of Abram and Hagar in Genesis 16 is an excellent example of listening to so-called good advice during a time of HEARING GOD, rather than waiting for God to CLARIFY. When God gives you a vision and darkness follows, wait!

Keep following / pursuing Jesus, daily

Philippians 3:8 NKJV "Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ"

- ✓ If you're struggling to HEAR, it could be your feelings of inadequacy or just a lack of confidence.
- ✓ I want you to know that God created you with amazing potential, don't limit yourself.
- ✓ If you will trust God, Believe that In Christ you are complete, you will HEAR GOD AND you can do whatever He says you can do, ITS TIME TO ARISE WALK INTO YOUR INCREASE, you will fulfill His destiny for your life.

SAY: I can hear from God for my life!

John 10:3-4 NKJV "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."

SAY: I am hearing from God for my life!

God is saying to us today: I HAVE INCREASE ON MY MIND FOR YOU THIS YEAR!

Remember in 2020: "all things are possible with God."

