



Listen to Jesus

MEMORY VERSE: "The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given—and you will receive even more." Mark 4:24

DAY 1

MARK 4:1-20 - Parable of the Soils

 One way Jesus taught the crowds was with parables. List where the seeds landed and then tell what happened to those seeds. vv. 3-9 Where seeds landed: What happened to the seeds:

- 2. Read verses 10-12. To whom is Jesus willing to reveal the "secret of the Kingdom of God"? Why is He intentionally secretive with the crowds?
- Jesus reveals the key to the parable the different ways people respond to God's message.
 Farmer those that share the Gospel or God's Truths with others.
 Seeds the gospel and the people hearing the message from the farmer.
 What are the different ways people respond to God's message? vv. 14-20

Road:

Rocks:

Weeds:

Good soil:

4. What kind of "soil" best represents you? Why? What "soil" are you tempted to revert back to?

5. As you hear, accept and apply God's Word to your life, list the fruit the Holy Spirit produces in you. Refer to Galatians 5:22-23. Is God's Word producing fruit in your life?

DAY 2 MARK 4:21-25 — Parable of the Lamp

- 6. What is the purpose of a candle or a lamp? How can it be kept from serving its purpose?
- 7. What will help you understand God's Word? What does Jesus say to those that do this? What does He say to those that do not?
- 8. How can we apply these verses to our lives?

DAY 3 MARK 4:21-25 — Parable of the Growing Seed

9. What does Jesus say the Kingdom of God is like? What happens to the seed (the gospel)?

10. What does this parable tell us about our role in telling people about Jesus? What is God's role?



- 11. How does Jesus use a mustard seed to teach about God's kingdom? vv. 30-32
- 12. How does this parable give us hope that God's kingdom will advance?



MARK 4:1-34 — Wrap Up

13. Read verses 3, 9, 12 and 24. What important lesson is Jesus teaching us in these verses? What are you doing with what you hear?

14. What do you think of Jesus' parables? How does it feel to be on a team with God to bring people to know Him?

TAKE AWAY

We can influence the amount of understanding God will give us by listening and hungrily absorbing what He is teaching us now. As you pray and read the Bible – concentrate on letting God speak to you.

BLESSING

Let's praise God for the mysterious power His Word has to grow our faith and bring new life to those we share it with.

INTRUTH Mark



Jesus' parables are full of spiritual truth that we need to understand today. Most of His audience could hear, but He referred to the need to spiritually listen in order to comprehend His truths. He said unless we understand and apply what we have received from Him, He cannot entrust us with more. Why don't we hear more of the voice of God in our lives? When we do hear Him, do we listen and respond?

What kind of soil are you? Some Christians would rather keep the rocks that need to be dug up, or live with the thorns and weeds that crowd out the seeds, instead of allowing the Gardener to refine the soil, fertilize, and prune the plant to cultivate it for abundant productivity. Where do you fit into this parable? Ask God to make you receptive to His transforming power so that you might be fruitful for Him!

Jesus wanted the disciples, and us, to know that what is observable on the surface may not be an accurate measure of the final outcome. As we are faithful to share Jesus and how He is working in our lives, The Holy Spirit is speaking life into the hearts that are ready.

Notes