

## Listen, Focus, Obey

### **Preamble** - Called, Gifted, Chosen

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. [13] Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. [14] Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. [15] Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. [16] Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. **1**

### **Timothy 4:12-16**

- Paul the Spiritual Father writes to His Spiritual son
- Reminds him of who he is and calls him to his identity

### **Introduction** - **Listen** to the Lord

Jesus - Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **Revelation 2:29**

Understanding the time is essential

In the midst of massive shifts

- Culturally - The world in general, political, financially, shift of power
- Spiritual - The Church is being reformed, transformed

### **Pay Attention** - **Focus**

We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. **Hebrews 2:1**

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, [2] turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding-

### **Proverbs 2:1-2**

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,

### **Proverbs 3:1**

Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. **Proverbs 4:1**

My son, pay attention to my wisdom, turn your ear to my words of insight,

### **Proverbs 5:1**

**Stand Up** - **Obey** - Change of Posture

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. [2] See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. **Isaiah 60:1-2**

### **1. Live Full**- Lords word to Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.” **1 Samuel 16:1**

- How long will you mourn?
- Fill your horn with oil
- Be on your way
- Speaking of a life in the spirit, his joy, strength, peace and hope.
- Live Full of the Spirit and the Word

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

### **2. Anoint the new** - Samuel with David

- At great personal risk to reputation and life
- Recognising what God is doing
- Affirming and aligning oneself with what God is doing

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah. **1 Samuel 16:13**

### **3. Prepare Yourself** - Get the people ready - Joshua

"Go through the camp and tell the people, '**Get** your provisions **ready**. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own.'" **Joshua 1:11**

- Preparation of our hearts
- Preparation in our relationships
- Preparation to be mobilised as God's people
- Preparing our structures, building
- Prepared for Harvest
- Prepared to work

But now be strong, Zerubbabel,' declares the LORD. 'Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the LORD, '**and work**. For I am with you,' declares the LORD Almighty. [5]

'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.' **Haggai 2:4-5**

- If the church, and God's people do not get ready it will be disastrous.

**4. Feed Your Faith** - Do not let his word depart from eyes and mouth  
May these words of my mouth and this **meditation of my heart** be pleasing  
in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. **Psalm 19:14**

- The initial word to Joshua gave him faith and courage
- But he needed to feed his faith

Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night,  
so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be  
prosperous and successful. **Joshua 1:8**

My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. [21] Do not  
let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; [22] for they are life to  
those who find them and health to one's whole body. [23] Above all else,  
guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. **Proverbs 4:20-23**