

How you hear is of vital importance to your salvation, your spiritual growth, and the multiplication of God's kingdom in the hearts of men.

The emphasis of this parable is actually on the soil.

Ultimately the glory of God in your life and in the world hangs on the hearing of the Word, therefore *"Take care how you hear."*

Salvation depends on hearing the Word

The fruit of salvation cannot be hidden

The fruit of salvation grows, matures, and multiplies

Luke 8:18 (ESV)

*<sup>18</sup> 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."*

#### 5 Characteristics & Practices Of Bad Listeners

1. Determined to stay the same
2. Demanding to be entertained
3. Distracted by the world
4. Distorting the truth
5. Don't know how to distinguish what is true from what is false

#### The Result of Bad Listening: Judgement

#### 5 Characteristics & Practices Of Good Listeners:

1. Listen to have their hearts reformed instead of their ears tickled
2. Listen with the intent to take action and heed what is said
3. Listen lovingly toward the one who is preaching, because the one preaching is doing so as an act of love to you.
4. Listen to apply everything to their own heart and life.
5. Listen prayerfully.

#### 3 Ways To Respond

1. Examine your listening and your living
2. Prioritize the preaching and hearing of the Word
3. Commit to let your light shine before men