

Listen To Me

Reading: [Matthew 17:1-8](#)

Text: [Matthew 13:13-17](#)

- The Three Stooges? "I can't see, I can't hear"
- Most problems occur because we do not listen
 - § Husbands do we listen to our wives?
 - § Parents and children
 - § Do we listen to God? [Matthew 13:13-17](#)
- When Jesus was transfigured, God said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, LISTEN TO HIM!" If you want to know how to become a Christian, If you are a Christian and your faith is weak and you wonder why so many things are going wrong in your life, If you want to have stronger faith, if you want to have greater commitment, *if you want to go to heaven*, then LISTEN!

1. So Your Heart Does Not Become Hard And Calloused.

[Matthew 13:15](#) "For the Heart of this people has grown dull" v. 15

People become hard hearted and become calloused, because

- they close their eyes and will not see,
- they stop their ears and will not listen.
- It is not that they can not, but choose not to see or hear.

Why won't people listen?

- **TRADITIONS** [Acts 6:14](#); [7:57](#) "Stopped ears"
- **UNCOMFORTABLE** to change [Acts 10](#) Peter
- **MONEY** [Acts 19:23-28](#) truth about idols.
- **PROBLEMS** "Do you WANT to be healed?" [John 5:](#)
- **POPULARITY** "I'll lose friends" [James 4:4](#)
- The **DECEITFULNESS** of sin! [Hebrews 3:13](#)

Listen so your heart does not become hard and calloused.

2. So You Do Not Have A Foolish Heart.

[Matthew 13:15](#) "Lest they see with their eyes and hear . . . and understand . . . hearts"

Foolish People Don't Want To Listen.

[Proverbs 1:7](#) The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. (RSV)

Foolish People Want To Remain Foolish: "I'm Fine The Way I Am."

[Ecclesiastes 4:13](#) Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to take warning.

- 2 guys went hunting argued over whether the tracks they found were bear or deer. About the time they agree that they were mountain lion tracks was when the train hit them.

[Proverbs 15:7](#) The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so the hearts of fools.

Listen, Pay Attention So You Will Not Have A Foolish Heart.

3. So You Will Not Be Deceived.

[Mt. 13:23](#) "worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth "

The context of passage includes the story of the sower

- Listen so you will not worry--[Jn 14:1-4](#); [Mt. 6:25](#)
- Listen so you will not be deceived--[Mt. 6:19](#)

[1 Timothy 6:9-10](#) But those who desire to be rich fall into **temptation**, into a **snare**, into many **senseless** and **harmful desires** that plunge people into **ruin** and **destruction**. For the love of money is a root of **all kinds of evils**. It is through this craving that some have **wandered away** from the faith and pierced themselves with **many griefs**.

Illustrations of those who were deceived

- The Prodigal Son was deceived by money--[Luke 15](#)
- A certain rich man with all his possessions [Luke 12:16](#)
- Others:
 - Adam and Eve by their desires; [Genesis 3](#)
 - A young prophet by a false prophet; [1 Kings 13](#)
 - Samson by Delilah [Judges 16](#)

4. So You Will Have A Good Heart

"But blessed are your eyes for they see and your ears for they hear."

Are those words spoken about you and me?

- Do we listen to Jesus?
- Do we obey God?

Listening isn't wise unless you use the information.

- [Matthew 7:24-27](#) The Wise man and the Foolish man.
- Parents asking children, "Did you HEAR me?"
- Jesus made that clear. Anyone is wise if he is obedient.
- The good heart?
 - It is the heart that looks for truth.
 - It is the heart that obeys the truth.