

**LIFEgroup Discussion Questions**

**May 6, 2017**

**Treasuring Jesus: Hearing the Word of God**

**Text: Luke 8.1-21**

**Looking into the Text:**

1. Why do you think there are classes and degrees for communications, but not listening? Have you ever thought about that?
2. What is the most important point that Jesus is trying to get across in the parable He shares (8.8, 18)?
3. What is the seed in the parable (8.11)? What are the four different types of hearing that we see (8.5-15)?
  - 8.5, 12: What is the purpose of Jesus and the devil (John 10.10)?
  - 8.6, 13: What is the hearer facing in this context?
  - 8.7, 14: What are distractions that can rob the Word of God from us?
  - 8.8, 15: What kind of heart does this hearer have that impacts his hearing?
4. To those who are part of the kingdom of God what do they know or have (8.10)? Those who don't have a part in the kingdom of God what do they not know or have?
5. How are we to listen (8.18) and why (positively and negatively)? How does this relate to 8.12-15?
6. What is the fruit of spiritual hearing (8.15-17)? How is the fruit of 8.15 related to the light of 8.16 (Colossians 1.10; Matthew 5.16; Matthew 10.27)?
7. Who is truly part of the kingdom of God – the family of God (8.19-21)?

**Looking Deeper:**

1. How do circumstances of life, especially adverse ones affect our hearing of the Word of God?
2. In Psalm 106.25, there is picture of grumbling, conflict and criticizing in the home between husband and wife or maybe between children and parents. What can happen at times when it comes to God's Word and when we get in arguments or disagreements in the home? How might that practically look?
3. Listening involves trusting in truth that we have already trusted in (Jeremiah 17.7-8). Are there truths in your life that maybe you have believed before, but are struggling to believe right now?

**PRAY:**

1. Pray for the group that we would hear the Word of God in a way that defeats the devil, endures trials, rejects the desire for riches and bears fruit unto eternal life.
2. Pray that our church body that we would be careful listeners to the Word of God and bear fruit as a bright shining light in the world.

**Do:** Seek to become a careful listener to God's Word. Pray for a heart to hear like the hearer in 8.15. Read and meditate on God's Word this week. As you do be teachable and think earnestly. Ask the Lord to purify your mind (James 1.21) and to give you a desire for His truth (Proverbs 2.3-5).