

LISTEN CAREFULLY

June 13, 2021 | Luke 8:16-21 | Pastor Michael Foster

Take care how you hear, because...

- Jesus knows your heart (vv. 16-17)
- Jesus gives and takes away (v. 18)
- Jesus loves those who hear and do God's word (vv. 19-21)

___ Today I choose to trust in Jesus alone to forgive my sin, give me a new heart, and give me eternal life. (A decision of salvation)

___ Today I determine to fully obey what God is asking me to do. I will stop making excuses and will no longer put off until tomorrow what God has told me to do today. I am determining to hear and do God's word regardless of how I feel or what others think. (A decision of dedication)

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Invite others to our "Parables of Jesus" drama event during worship services on 6/27 - <https://vimeo.com/444603689/80466af6dc?fbclid=IwAR1YmvgTECLeZP8-KA6tTHW9X5Sm7ZYeUgYUXv1nN4sZQUYwiliGXq1X8fy>
- Review what we have studied in Luke 6:27-49 and Luke 8:4-21.
- Memorize John 14:21. Meditate on Psalm 1, Isaiah 1, James 1:22-25.

- Read this article about "The True Family of Jesus" - www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/true-family-jesus/
- Watch this video and be ready to share the gospel with others - www.youtube.com/watch?v=HK9IsiEcW7k
- Listen to "Speak, O Lord" - www.youtube.com/watch?v=my90e3a_nlM
- Listen to "Here's My Heart Lord" - www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkSBmRAVXNc

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. In your own words, explain what Jesus means when he says "my mothers and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice."
3. Who is someone you admire for their responsiveness to God? And why?
4. Share about ways in which the word of God has either melted (softened) or hardened your heart in the past? How have you sought to nurture a soft and responsive heart to God's word?
5. Spend some time reading Isaiah 1 and also John 14:21. What do you observe in these passages about what it looks like to love and obey the Lord?
6. In what ways do you feel satisfied with how you are responding to the Lord in this season? In what ways would you like to grow in your responsiveness to him?
7. Is there anything that others can pray for you about specifically as you seek to be responsive to what God is asking you to do?
8. Read Ezekiel 36:26-28. What do we learn here about what it takes to have what Jesus calls "a good heart"?
9. Has anyone ever shared with you from the Bible how you can know for sure that you have a new heart? That you are forgiven of your sin and have eternal life? How would you share this good news with someone else?
10. Who can you pray for to come to know Jesus personally this summer? Spend some time praying for people in this way.