

July 16, 2017

“How Well Do You Listen?”
(Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23)

Our question for the day is, “How well do you _____?”

Jesus was not interested in teaching them or us about _____ . He’s talking about people who are exposed to his _____ .

Jesus knew that some of those who hear the word will leave having heard _____ .

Let’s seek to answer our question of the day:

#1.- Statistics show that _____ people do not really listen very well even in the best of _____ .

We don’t _____ much of what we do hear...even if we do listen.

Studies show that people remember _____. That’s one reason Jesus used so many _____ (which is a kind of story).

Listening is _____ business.

_____ is difficult business...Listening is difficult.

#2.- Jesus’ emphasis in this parable is not upon the _____ or the seed but upon the _____ .

God is the sower, the Gospel is the _____, and the soil is our _____ .

The most eloquent preacher/teacher in the world cannot reach the heart that is _____ to the Gospel or the life that is _____ with the weeds of worldly concerns.

#3.- Sometimes we need to simply get to a _____ place and listen. That is a major part of what _____ is all about – listening.

We need a time when we can simply spend time in God’s _____ .

Some people call this “ _____ prayer.”

It takes a real _____ to set aside the time to truly _____ to God.

It’s really ironic.... We will resolve to spend an hour each day exercising our _____ at the gym, but we won’t spend half that time each day getting our _____ in condition spending time in God’s presence.

Some of the seed fell on good ground and they brought forth fruit –in some cases a _____-fold!

In what condition is the soil of your heart?

It’s simply a matter of listening.

(over)