Everybody Listen Up!





Everybody, Listen Up-Mark 9

⁵ Peter *said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three ball tabernacles, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶ For he did not know what to answer; for they became terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud [c]formed, overshadowing them, and a voice [d]came out of the cloud, "This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!" 8 All at once they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone.

Listen UP!!!

- God didn't say:
 - Study Him, write books about Him, go to classes and hold conferences about Him,
 - Erect buildings where people sing songs and listen to speeches and have covered dish dinners in His name
- He said: Sit down, chill out, seek out a relationship with Him and be still and LISTEN TO HIM – He is all you HAVE
- Are you listening for His Voice?

Follow the Leader's Example

- "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, <u>unless it is something</u> <u>He sees the Father doing</u>; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. John 5:19
- 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. John 14:10

Do You Listen to Him?

- We spend a lot of time trying to get Him to listen to US! How do you listen to Him?
- Intention Do you intend to listen to Him? Do you earnestly desire to hear His voice?
- Expectation Do you expect Him to speak to you? Are you ready to hear from Him?
- Recognition "My sheep hear my voice." But we don't always notice because we are not practiced listeners. Maybe a "rhema" experience. Maybe just a phrase or a song or a picture. But you sense it is important.

Expect the Unexpected

- Jeremiah 33:3 "Call on Me and I will show you Great and Mighty things you DID NOT KNOW"
- We need to hear from God and be led by the Holy Spirit.
- Don't start with a list of possibilities we could or should do.
- Start with a blank slate, "Holy Spirit, Give us direction and understanding
- Listen to HIM, and Expect the unexpected.



Rethinking Church

80%

of the time, talent and resources of a local church is spent on care, feeding and maintenance members, equipment and buildings

Only 20%

is invested in ministry/outreach in the local community in a way that would connect new people to Jesus, transform culture, and extend His Kingdom

Thy Kingdom Come ...

- Wherever Jesus went, people were helped, healed and set free. He was out in the world, where the need was greatest.
- We are His body today, and how do we spend our time?
- The Church has focused too long on inside the church building where we are comfortable.
- Things will not change until we learn to talk less and listen more.
- Begins with wanting His will instead of ours.



Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY