

## HEAR TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE?

Thursday Bible Study  
ACA Avadi Church  
29 February 2024

### Psalm 119:18 -

Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.

- God wants us to understand the Scriptures
  - God does not want us to become blind, deaf, mute and lose all our senses in our journey of faith
- Whether we sing, pray, read or follow - God wants us to understand and do it.

### 1 Corinthians 14:15

What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also **pray with the understanding**. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also **sing with the understanding**.

- Jesus revealed the truth of the Kingdom of God by speaking in Parables.

### Matthew 13:10-13

And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup>He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. <sup>12</sup>"For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>13</sup>"Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, **nor do they understand**."

### Matthew 28:19-20 -

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 **teaching them to observe all things** that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

## HEAR & UNDERSTAND

### Matthew 15:10

When He had called the multitude to *Himself*, He said to them, "**Hear and understand:**

### John 8:43

"Why do you not understand My speech? **Because you are not able to listen to My word.**

### Matthew 13:15

For the hearts of this people have grown dull. **Their ears are hard of hearing**, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'

PAUL WAS PREACHING IN PHILIPPI

But a Young Man was sleeping during the Sermon

**Acts 20:9.**

And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead.

**Hebrews 3:7-9 (KJV)**

7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, **To day** if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, **in the day of temptation** in the wilderness: 9 When your fathers **tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.**

**TAKE CARE OF HOW YOU LISTEN**

**Luke 8:18**

"So **take care how you listen**; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

**Luke 10:38-42.**

38 Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

41 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. 42 But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

There are at least three spiritual truths to be learnt from Mary's sitting at the feet of Jesus.

**1. SITTING IS A SIGN OF RESTING**

**Luke 10:39**

And she had a sister called **Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.**

- Sitting-unlike walking, running, or even standing-is primarily a picture of rest.
- This teaches us that our hearts must be at rest and our minds still, before we can hear God speaking to us.

**1 Kings 19:11-13**

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, *but the Lord was not in the wind*; and after the wind an earthquake, *but the Lord was not in the earthquake*; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, *but the Lord was not in the fire*; and after the fire a still small voice. 13 So it was,

when Elijah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice *came* to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

MARTHA BEGAN WELL - Welcoming Jesus

### **Luke 10:38**

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named **Martha welcomed Him into her house**

### **MARY ALSO SAT AT JESUS' FEET**

- This implies that Martha started off well - sitting at the feet of Jesus

### **Luke 10:39**

And she had a sister called Mary, **who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.**

### **But Martha would not sit for long with Jesus**

- Martha began well - but was SOON distracted
- Instead of Resting and Hearing - she moved to SERVING

### **Luke 10:40**

But Martha was distracted with much serving...

- **But Mary began SERVING - but was SOON left Martha**
- Instead of SERVING - She moved to Resting and Hearing

### **Luke 10:40**

But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that **my sister has left me to serve alone?** Therefore tell her to help me."

- We have 2 voices that are calling us
- **THE VOICE OF JESUS:** Calling us to listen to him
- **THE VOICE OF MARTHA:** Calling us to serve Jesus

### **Acts 6:1-4**

1 Now in those days, when *the number* of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. 2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

## **SOMETIMES OUR HEARTS ARE LIKE THE THORNY GROUND**

### **Matthew 13:22**

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

### **Psalm 131:1-2**

1 Lord, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. 2 Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me.

### **Luke 10:41-42**

41 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. 42 But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

### **Psalm 46:10 -**

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

## **2. SITTING IS A SIGN OF READINESS**

### **Luke 10:39**

And she had a sister called **Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.**

- **Sitting as Mary did is the attitude of a disciple in the presence of His master.**

### **Exodus 34:1-2**

1 And the Lord said to Moses, "Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and I will write on *these* tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke. 2 So be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself to Me there on the top of the mountain.

### **Psalm 5:1-3-**

1 Give ear to my words, O Lord, Consider my meditation. 2 Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray. 3 My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; In the morning I will direct *it* to You, And I will look up.

## **GOD WOULD NOT SPEAK WITH SAMUEL UNTIL HE WAS READY TO LISTEN**

### **1 Samuel 3:6-9**

6 Then the Lord called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 (Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, nor was the word of the Lord yet revealed to him.)

8 And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." **Then Eli perceived that the Lord had called the boy.** 9 **Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.' "** So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

### **Psalm 57:7 (GNV)**

Mine heart is prepared, O God, mine heart is prepared; I will sing and give praise.

### **Acts 17:11 (ESV)**

"Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."

## **3. SITTING AS A SIGN OF REVERENCE/ RESPECT**

### **Luke 10:39**

And she had a sister called **Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.**

- Sitting at a person's feet is also a picture of humility.
- Mary was not sitting on a chair on the same level as Jesus, but on a lower level.

### **Matthew 15:30 -**

Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them *the* lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' **feet**, and He healed them.

### **Mark 7:25 -**

For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His **feet**.

### **Luke 7:37-39**

37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, 38 and **stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.** 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this*, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

### **Matthew 18:29 -**

So his fellow servant **fell down at his feet** and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'

**Matthew 28:9 -**

And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and **held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.**

**Psalm 123:2 -**

Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes *look* to the Lord our God, Until He has mercy on us.

**Luke 8:35 -**

Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, **sitting at the feet of Jesus**, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

- God never speaks to a proud man, except in judgement.

**Matthew 11:25**

**25** At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

25. அந்தச் சமயத்தில் இயேசு சொன்னது: பிதாவே! வானத்துக்கும் பூமிக்கும் ஆண்டவரே! இவைகளை ஞானிகளுக்கும் கல்விமான்களுக்கும் மறைத்து, பாலகருக்கு வெளிப்படுத்தினபடியால் உம்மை ஸ்தோத்திரிக்கிறேன்.

**John the Baptist was Humble****Matthew 3:13-14**

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 And John *tried to prevent Him*, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"