

TALK IT OVER

Awake to Hear

BOTTOM LINE

Only a willing attitude and heart can receive the Word and produce change.

CONVERSATION STARTER

If you were able to teach a class on one thing that you are good at, what would it be?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Understanding the Parable of the Sower](#) (8 min.)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear. Luke 8:8 NIV

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
John 10:27 NIV

I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Psalm 32:8 NLT

So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.
James 1:21 NLT

“In this story, the farmer represents God, the seed represents God’s Word, and the soil represents my heart and mind. The hardened soil is a closed mind. The shallow soil is a superficial mind. The soil with weeds is a preoccupied mind. But the good soil is a willing mind.” – Dwight Mason.

“God speaks to people who decide in advance to obey.” – Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

We were created for relationship with God, and He speaks to us. He initiates the relationship. How does God speak to us? What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear”? What hinders you from hearing God? How has listening to God been significant in your journey? Do you feel it is easier or harder to hear from God in the season you are in? Explain. I can hear the best messages and read the best books in the world, but if my heart is hardened, it won’t take root. If I want to truly hear from God, first I must cultivate an open mind and heart. Pride, fear, and bitterness all create hard soil in my heart. How have you experienced hardness of heart? How do you cultivate an open mind and heart? If I don’t schedule time to listen, I will have shallow soil where roots can’t grow. How do you deal with your schedule? What are the signs of shallow roots? How are you working on developing deep roots? The weedy ground represents soil with distractions. Jesus said distractions are the worries, riches, and pleasures of life. What does an honest appraisal tell you are your greatest distractions? The final part of growing is choosing to obey – before you even know what He asks of you. The person God speaks to is the one who proactively says, “Whatever You want, I will do it.” Where is God speaking to you?

ACTION STEP

I commit myself to realistically assess the type of soil that is currently in my heart and surrender it to God, making new choices to enable growth and transformation: _____