

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Spring 2025 - Stand alone sermon - "Listen to God"

Monday, Feb. 24 - Sunday, Mar. 2 (Week 4)

In Pastor Peter Ochoa's sermon, he emphasizes the importance of truly hearing and accepting God's Word as illustrated in the parable of the sower from Mark chapter four. He points out that listening to God is a profound act that goes beyond mere attendance at church; it requires genuine engagement with the message of the Gospel. Pastor Peter warns about the perils of hard-heartedness, superficial joy, and distractions in our lives that can choke out the truth of God's Word, drawing parallels to different types of soil that represent people's responses to the Gospel. As he explains the parable, Pastor Peter describes four types of listeners: those who fail to hear due to hardened hearts, those who respond joyously but are not rooted when trials come, those consumed by worldly desires, and finally, the good soil that produces fruit when one hears and accepts God's Word. He challenged us to reflect on our relationship with God, encouraging us to receive the Gospel deeply and continually so that our lives can bear spiritual fruit. The sermon concluded with an invitation to embrace Jesus wholeheartedly, assuring that genuine acceptance of the Gospel can lead to a life transformed and fruitful for His Kingdom.

Understanding the Parable

- What are the four types of soil mentioned in the parable of the sower, and what do they represent in our spiritual lives?
- Reflect on your current spiritual state. Which type of soil do you think best represents your heart right now, and why?

The Importance of Listening

- The sermon emphasizes the importance of listening to God. How do you differentiate between simply hearing and truly listening to God's Word?
- What practical steps can you take this week to improve your ability to listen to God's voice in your daily life?

The Danger of Distractions

- Discuss how distractions and the "noise" of the world can prevent us from truly hearing God. What are some common distractions you face?

Joy and Trials

- The sermon mentions that joy alone is not enough for salvation. How do trials and tribulations test the authenticity of our faith?
- Share a time when you faced a trial that tested your faith. How did you respond, and what did you learn from that experience?



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The Deceitfulness of Riches

- How can the pursuit of wealth and worldly desires choke our spiritual growth, as described in the thorny soil?
- What is one area of your life where you feel the pull of worldly desires? How can you refocus that area to align more closely with God's will?

