



## Hearing 1

**Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group:** To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

**Key Theme:** Hearing.

**Key Truth:** Hearing precedes Vision.

**Read:** We have spent the last 15 weeks wrestling with God and one another for the reality of life that is contained in Christ for us as His people. We have asked the questions around our ability to SEE what is in Christ for us as His children and to be living from this revealed position. Paul prays for us that we would see and hear and understand all the things that God has prepared for those who love Him.

The key to vision is hearing. Hearing precedes Seeing.

**Romans 10:17** *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*

As we look at this passage we see the word hearing twice and at the centre of the verse. Paul knows the key to faith, which sees, is in the ability to hear. Hearing is the key to faith. We have to understand that there is a hearing and then there is A HEARING.

There is a natural hearing which is hearing through the natural filters of the physical life that we are born with and then there is the hearing of the Spirit, which is not natural but of the spiritual kingdom of God. Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe in the gospel"

Jesus brought with Him the spiritual kingdom of His Father and with this kingdom came a brand new way of being and living. We all must be born again of water and spirit if we are to see and enter into this kingdom, where the ability to hear what is being declared is dependent on one being born of the Spirit.

Spiritual hearing is completely opposite to the natural way we hear. They are not similar but they are opposite. Hearing in the Spirit is just that. It's a hearing of a spiritual kind and it's a hearing that is very hard to describe but can be fully known by all those who are of the Spirit.

It's not about hearing any word or words but about hearing the Word of Christ. The Word of Christ is a spiritual word which is communicated through the Spirit and it's the Spirit who gives this Word life.

**John 6:60-63** *Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this said, "This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?" But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, "Does this cause you to stumble? What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life."*

The difficult statement to which the people said, "Who can listen to it?", was when Jesus referred to people eating His flesh and drinking His blood, so they can have life in themselves. We must be able to hear and understand the Word of Christ which is of the Spirit, otherwise we, just like the Jews, will more than likely stumble over what is being declared.

Failure to be able to hear His Word will have us hearing either the wrong thing or just not hearing at all, leaving us void of spiritual life within us.



**Questions:**

1. In your own words try to describe what hearing from the Spirit is as opposed to hearing from the natural?
2. Why is it essential we can hear in the Spirit?
3. How does one know if they are hearing from the Spirit or the natural?
4. Hearing the Word of Christ through the natural can have us saying the same things as the Jews said in John 6, which sees us rejecting God's word. Would you say you have ever done this and why?
5. Share with the group what you now see in the unseen realm because of your ability to hear what has been declared over the last 15 weeks?

**Action point:** What is one thing the Father may be saying to you and asking for you to do in relation to this teaching lesson?