



Hearing 11

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

Key Theme: Hearing.

Key Truth: There's only one voice we are to listen to.

Key Scripture: *Mark 5:35-42 While He was still speaking, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?" But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid any longer, only believe." And He allowed no one to accompany Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James. They came to the house of the synagogue official; and He saw a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing. And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep." They began laughing at Him. But putting them all out, He took along the child's father and mother and His own companions, and entered the room where the child was. Taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). Immediately the girl got up and began to walk, for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded.*

This is a fascinating passage of scripture as there are 2 voices that are at play within this passage. There is the voice of the world and then there is the voice of the Messiah. There are multiple voices in this world but which voice do we actively choose to listen to and receive from? Depending on the voices we listen to and receive from determines so much about the life we receive. The world can never offer us the Eternal Life that Christ does.

This particular passage is about Jairus the synagogue official and his daughter, who is on her death bed, sick and in need of urgent help. Jairus comes to Jesus imploring Him earnestly to help his daughter as she is dying. The world comes in verse 35 and states that his daughter is dead and that he should not trouble the Teacher anymore.

The world always speaks of one reality while Jesus always speaks of another. The world always speaks from its own kind, a natural earthly reality and yet we find Jesus always speaking from His kind, a spiritual Heavenly kingdom reality. Jesus was never limited to the natural dimension of the earth and neither are we to be. While we listen to the voices of the natural or the earth, the voice of reason, rationale and logic, we will always come short of the Christ centred and anchored dimension which comes through hearing Him, which He calls us to experience, walk in and live from.

Here is a break-down of the 2 different voices. What do you notice about each voice?

W: *"Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?"*

J: *But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid any longer, only believe."*

W: *They came to the house of the synagogue official; and He saw a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing.*

J: *And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep."*

W: *They began laughing at Him.*

J: *Taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!")*

Verse 42 speaks of how this encounter with Christ ended. The girl immediately rose and began to walk around, and everyone was astounded. Seeing in the natural and hearing in the natural are of the flesh and Jesus said the flesh profits



man nothing. We must be a people who hear His voice and His voice alone, acting from this place of hearing.

Matthew 17:5-6 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified.

Questions:

1. Which voice or voices do we find ourselves listening to more often than not?
2. How easy or hard is it to shut the voices of the world up?
3. Why does the voice of the world mock what God declares?
4. What does one need to be able to hear the voice of God?
5. How do people hear the voice of God over the voices of the world?

Action point: What is one thing you may need to put in place from going through this resource?