

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Game Plan
Message: Listen and Learn
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: September 17, 2023

Read the story Jesus told that explains why some people never start or progress in their faith, and why others flourish. As you do, ask yourself about how Jesus would assess your current attitude toward listening and learning from Him. What is going well and where can you make improvements.

⁴ One day Jesus told a story in the form of a parable to a large crowd that had gathered from many towns to hear him: ⁵ “A farmer went out to plant his seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds ate it. ⁶ Other seed fell among rocks. It began to grow, but the plant soon wilted and died for lack of moisture. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns that grew up with it and choked out the tender plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop that was a hundred times as much as had been planted!” When he had said this, he called out, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”

⁹ His disciples asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰ He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God. But I use parables to teach the others so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled:

*‘When they look, they won’t really see.
 When they hear, they won’t understand.’*

¹¹ “This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is God’s word. ¹² The seeds that fell on the footpath represent those who hear the message, only to have the devil come and take it away from their hearts and prevent them from believing and being saved. ¹³ The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don’t have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation. ¹⁴ The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity. ¹⁵ And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God’s word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest.”

Luke 8:4–15 (NLT)

What is something I have said “no” to that was initially tough but has paid off in bringing me closer to God?

What things distract me from full devotion to God?

What could I do this week to increase my ability to listen to God and learn from Him?

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NAS – New American Standard

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: Game Plan
Message: Listen and Learn
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: September 17, 2023

Jesus has given His church a mission to accomplish.

²² Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.

²³ I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.

²⁴ Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! ²⁵ All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶ So I run with purpose in every step.

1 Corinthians 9:22–26 (NLT)

The attitude required to accomplish our mission is one all successful athletes get – undistracted devotion.

Jesus told a story to explain how this works...or doesn't. (Luke 8:4-15)

This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:35 (NAS)