

Receiving the Word of God

Text: Mark 4:21-25

Context - After the parable of the sower and the good soil, Jesus speaks to his disciples about receiving the word, applying it, and sharing it.

Main Idea - True disciples of Christ receive the word carefully and share it with others.

As you receive the word of God...

1. _____ your lamp on a lampstand (vs. 21-22)

A. The light in this passage can represent the word of God or Christ himself, and this light has come into the world to reveal truth, enlighten minds, and conquer darkness.

B. This light may be hidden or concealed now, but it will be made manifest to all people with the second coming of Jesus.

C. As Christians, we have a task to shine the light into this world.

2. _____ attention to what you hear (vs. 23-24)

A. The call to listen carefully to Jesus is found in this chapter in verses 3, 9, 13, 23, and 24. The Message Bible paraphrases this verse as, "Are you listening to this, really listening?"

B. We must be careful to not be merely hearers of the word, but doers also. (James 1:22)

3. _____ even greater fruit (vs. 25)

A. If the hearer embraces Jesus' message of the kingdom in a rich and profound way, then still more will be added to you—that is, God will take up residence in that heart and give increased understanding and blessing, both in this age and in the age to come. (ESV Study Bible)

B. Are you increasing in obedience and in fruitfulness as you receive the Word of God?