

## Really Hearing

Many mothers, maybe mine, have asked a child, "Did you hear me?" The question is often followed by an amazing answer that indicates the child heard every word. Mothers are thus frustrated knowing the child heard their words but did not act upon them.

God's Word is able to save the soul and should be received with humble submission. God seemingly has the same frustrations as some mothers, since people hear the Word without doing anything, making hearing the Word of God an act of futility. Our Lord's half-brother wrote, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:21-22). Guy N. Woods said the verb tense of the word "doers" denotes a continuous action.

The same action is seen in Paul's description of some of those who Christ will judge worthy of vengeance. That group will not keep on obeying the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9). We are deceived when we think all that we have to do is hear the truth. **Hearing must produce a faith that acts.** Such faith is produced by hearing God's Word, as well as believing He exists and will reward those who diligently seek him (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6).

James used a parable (James 1:23-25) to illustrate the point of verse 22. A person who looks in a mirror to check his appearance but goes away without correcting the problems he sees is like the one who hears but does nothing. The other character in the parable "looks," which Woods says means "to stoop and look, to gaze intently." This man stands in stark contrast to the one who only glanced in the mirror and did nothing about the things he saw amiss. The one worthy of commendation carefully examines himself, intending to correct every flaw.

Each of us needs to set our sights on really hearing what God says. We can accomplish our purpose by carefully reading God's Word to fully understand it. We, then, can demonstrate our hearing by doing what Scripture tells us to do.

- Gary C. Hampton, *Gospel Gazette Online* -

## "He Is Everything To Me"

In His life, Christ is an example. In His death, He is a sacrifice. In His resurrection, He is a conqueror. In His ascension, He is a king. In His intercession, He is a high priest.

Christ is full and sufficient for all people. He is bread, wine, milk, and living waters to feed them. He is a garment of righteousness to cover and adorn them, a Physician to heal them, a Counselor to advise them, a Captain to defend them, a Prince to rule them, a Prophet to teach them, a Priest to make atonement for them, a Husband to guide them, a Father to provide, a Brother to relieve, a Foundation to support, a Root to quicken, a Head to guide, a Treasurer to enrich, a Sun to enlighten, and a Fountain to cleanse.

- Author Unknown (*Bulletin Digest*) -

God is a donor no one can outdo.

## News & Notes

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:** Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Masks & distancing apply.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

**POTTERS CHILDREN'S HOME:** Monetary donations are being collected until next Wednesday, August 25th. Give your donation to one of the Elders or Bro. Rico. The church here will match the total donations.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE:** For Bro. Charles Aebi on Saturday, Sept. 4th, 11:00 a.m., Barlow Vincent Church of Christ, Vincent, OH. (740) 678-2309.

**OUR GOSPEL MEETING:** Sept. 19-23 with Ed Melott. Sunday, 10:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.; Monday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Plan to support our meeting with your attendance.

**PICTURE GALLERY OF PAST MEMBERS:** Submit pictures (black and white or color) to David Malcomson.

**PANTRY:** Baked beans.

**SEND CARDS:** Karen Meeks, 49411 Fredericktown Clarkson Rd., Negley, OH 44441. (Friend of Sharon Sprout who has cancer).

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** *THE ORCHARDS of EAST LIVERPOOL (rehab):* Jim Hadley.

*AT HOME:* Peggy Linger, Randy Beagle, Marilyn Miller, Barb DeLong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Emma Rine, Rick Beck. *CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:* Sarah Miller (Room 6). *VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:* Fred Larrimore (Room 210). *IN FLORIDA:* Ilene Rayl.

## WAITING FOR HEAVEN

In a Bible study attention was drawn to scripture found in the letter of Jude. These scriptures point out important actions for Christians to do.

*"But you beloved, building yourselves upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life" (Jude 20, 21).*

These four actions are so necessary for those in the body of Christ.

1. Build yourself up in your faith.
2. Pray
3. Keep yourself in the love of God.
4. Wait anxiously for eternal life.

This letter of Jude is very pointed about how we need to act as Christians. The number four point shows the necessary action that encourages the unity that Christ prayed for to the Father on the church's behalf. Consider the effect of this common goal for the church.

Everyone in the body would be working toward the coming of Christ and eternal life. This would avoid the selfish actions of "what can the church do for me". Most of all the many "isms" that divide the church would begin to vanish.

Our obedience is to the word of God. Our hope for salvation depends on God. Our hope for unity is from the faith in the scriptures.

- Carol Duncan, (adapted from *Bulletin Digest*) -