



Basic Lesson 5

Hearing God

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Luke 10:38-42

Basic Principle: You can hear God through His Word.

You must begin with the premise that the God of the Bible still speaks to His people today. One of the primary ways God speaks is through His Word.

Hearing God, like Mary sitting at Jesus' feet to hear the Word, is a picture of submission.

Luke 10:38-39

“Now it happened as they went that He (Jesus) entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. She (Martha) had a sister called Mary who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word.”

Mary **heard** Jesus' words, as you can. God speaks through your thoughts and impressions. This describes **how** Mary heard Jesus' Word:

- She **heard**
- She **understood**, with **implied obedience** to the Word.

Context: Mary was privileged to sit with Jesus' disciples, but Martha was pressuring her to help with the preparations.

Response: Sitting at Jesus' feet is an **attitude of reverence**, showing a desire to receive.

v40, 41 “But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, ‘Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.’ Jesus said, ‘Martha, Martha, you are careful (full of cares) and troubled about many things...”

Context: Martha is burdened down, distracted with much service.

Response: Mary made a **choice**; this was a priority for her. She had to resist pressure to help with the preparations.

v42 Jesus says,

“But one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part which will not be taken away from her.” The good part, the time Mary spent at Jesus' feet has lasting benefits.

Benefits: Learning to hear Jesus

- The good part is the interaction between Mary and Jesus as she received her portion of the Word personally. It is rewarding to hear the Lord and receive from Him.
- Revelation remains in your spirit. You do not forget the truths God shows you.
- You receive your portion of the Word for the prayer time. As you meditate, the portion you receive is the basis of your response and prayer.
- You will grow spiritually, become discerning. Mary was the only one privileged to anoint Jesus before His burial. She learned to recognize the voice of God, and was obedient to do what He said. (John 12:3-8)
- Anna and Simeon were others in the right place at the right time to encounter Jesus because they learned to recognize God's voice and were obedient to it. (Luke 2:25-35 Simeon; Anna v2:36-38)
- Strength for the intercessor. Sitting at Jesus feet hearing and receiving His Word is where you put aside the cares and concerns of the day as you are washed by the Word. Your inner needs are met, strengthening you. (Ephesians 5:26)
- Prayer becomes easy, God has shown you what to pray.

Application: Meditate through the passage. Receive your portion, apply it personally. Pray it out.