

Frequency Part 1: Preparing To Hear

(John 10:3-5 NIV) "The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep **listen to his voice**. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they **know his voice**. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a **stranger's voice**."

(Proverbs 3:6 MSG) "Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one who will keep you on track."

(Luke 8:8 NIV) "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

(Luke 8:5-8 NIV) "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the **path**; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on **rocky ground**, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among **thorns**, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on **good soil**. It came up and **yielded a crop**, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "He who has **ears to hear**, let him hear!"

(Luke 8:11 NIV) "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God..."

(Luke 8:12 NIV) "Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then **the devil comes** and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved."

1. The polluted heart.

(James 1:21 NLT) "Get rid of all the **filth** and **evil** in your lives, and humbly **accept the message** God has planted in your hearts, for it is strong enough to save your soul."

We can't begin a **new** life until we **turn** from the **old**.

(Luke 8:13 NLT) "The rocky soil represents those who hear the message with joy. But like young plants in such soil, **their roots don't go very deep**. They believe for a while, but **they wilt** when the hot winds of testing blow."

2. The distracted heart.

(Luke 10:39-40 AMP) "And she had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and was **listening** to His teaching. But Martha [overly occupied and too busy] was **distracted** with much serving."

To **hear** God's voice, I must **turn down** the world's volume.

(Luke 8:14 NIV) "The seed that fell among **weeds** [neglect] stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by life's worries, riches, and pleasures, and they don't **mature**."

3. The immature heart.

(Hebrews 12:1-2 GW) "Since we are surrounded by **so many examples {of faith}**, we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially sin that distracts us. We must run the race that lies ahead of us and never give up. We must focus on Jesus."

Maturity comes when we stop making **excuses** and start making **changes**.

(Luke 8:15 NIV) "But the seed on **good soil** stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

4. The prepared heart.

✓ **Repent.**

✓ **Refocus.**

✓ **Revive.**

(2 Corinthians 7:1 MSG) "Let's make a **clean break** with everything that defiles or distracts us, both within and without. Let's make our entire lives **fit and holy temples** for the worship of God."

God's voice is clearest in a **prepared environment**.