

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. Hebrews 5:11-14 (ESV)

Dull Of Hearing

I don't want that. **What's that?** I don't want to become dull of hearing. **That's good. What might make you dull of hearing?** If I were to neglect your word, I would become dull of hearing. There is zero chance that I will hear your word if I make no attempt to listen to you. That is why it has been and will be my daily pattern and practice to meet with you in your word. I will make myself available to you. I will quiet myself before you. I will listen attentively to your voice. That reminds me of something. **What's that?** The world is a noisy place. It is very difficult to hear you over the noise and busyness of life. **Yes, it is.** I am also reminded of another thought. **I'm listening.** It is very easy to get caught up in the hurry and hustle of daily life. **That's true.** It is because the world is a noisy and busy place that I will set a part a special time and place to meet with you in your word. **That will be very good.**

What else might cause you to become dull of hearing? If I were to let your word go in one ear and out the other the I will certainly become dull of hearing. I will become dull of hearing if I don't constantly put your word into practice. **That's true.** I'm sure I can know how well I have heard your word by how well I have put it into practice. **That's true.** If I were to never put your word into practice, I could be sure that I never really your word in the first place. **That is also true.**

What will help you to grow in your ability to hear my word? If I were to teach others what you have been teaching me, that will help me to grow in my ability to hear your word. **Yes, it will. Will you make it your daily habit to meet with me in my word? Will you put my word into your constant practice? Will you teach others what I have been teaching you?** Yes Lord, I will. **Then you will never become dull of hearing.**

Lord, I do not want to be dull of hearing. I want to be able to hear and put your word into constant practice. I will meet with you every day in your word so that I can hear from you. Help me also to teach others all you have been teaching me from your word. Amen

God's Word *Trained Themselves*

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

NIV Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Through Training*

There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don't seem to listen. You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right. Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

NLT Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Trained By Practice*

About this we have much to say that is hard to explain, since you have become dull in understanding. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic elements of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food; for everyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by practice to distinguish good from evil.

NRSV Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Trained By Practice*

Concerning this we have much to say which is hard to explain, since you have become dull in your [spiritual] hearing and sluggish [even slothful in achieving spiritual insight]. For even though by this time you ought to be teaching others, you actually need someone to teach you over again the very first principles of God's Word. You have come to need milk, not solid food. For everyone who continues to feed on milk is obviously inexperienced and unskilled in the doctrine of righteousness (of conformity to the divine will in purpose, thought, and action), for he is a mere infant [not able to talk yet! But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law.

AMP Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Because Of Practice*

Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

NASB Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Trained By Constant Practice*

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

ESV Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *By Reason Of Use*

of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

NKJV Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Have Some Practice*

I have a lot more to say about this, but it is hard to get it across to you since you've picked up this bad habit of not listening. By this time you ought to be teachers yourselves, yet here I find you need someone to sit down with you and go over the basics on God again, starting from square one—baby's milk, when you should have been on solid food long ago! Milk is for beginners, inexperienced in God's ways; solid food is for the mature, who have some practice in telling right from wrong.

MSG Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *Practicing Doing Right*

There is much more I would like to say along these lines, but you don't seem to listen, so it's hard to make you understand. You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others, but instead you have dropped back to the place where you need someone to teach you all over again the very first principles in God's Word. You are like babies who can drink only milk, not old enough for solid food. And when a person is still living on milk it shows he isn't very far along in the Christian life, and doesn't know much about the difference between right and wrong. He is still a baby Christian! You will never be able to eat solid spiritual food and understand the deeper things of God's Word until you become better Christians and learn right from wrong by practicing doing right.

TLB Hebrews 5:11-14

God's Word *They Have Practiced*

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are so slow to understand. By now you should be teachers, but you need someone to teach you again the first lessons of God's message. You still need the teaching that is like milk. You are not ready for solid food. Anyone who lives on milk is still a baby and knows nothing about right teaching. But solid food is for those who are grown up. They have practiced in order to know the difference between good and evil.

NCV Hebrews 5:11-14

Trained By Constant Practice

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

God's Word – Hebrews 5:11-14

In Context: *Read Hebrews 5*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

About this | we have | much | to say, | and | it is | hard to explain, | since | you have | become dull | of hearing. | For though | by this time | you ought | to be | teachers, | you need | someone | to teach you | again | the | basic principles | of the | oracles of God. | You need milk, | not | solid food, | for everyone | who lives | on milk | is unskilled | in the | word of righteousness, | since | he is | a child. | But | solid food | is for | the mature, | for those | who have | their powers | of discernment | trained by | constant practice | to distinguish | good | from evil. Hebrews 5:11-14 (ESV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I do not want to be dull of hearing. I want to be able to hear and put your word into constant practice. I will meet with you every day in your word so that I can hear from you. Help me also to teach others all you have been teaching me from your word. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What will dull your ability to hear God's word?

Why will failure to act on God's word hinder your future ability to hear it?

How has your ability to hear God's word improved as you have continued to study it?

Who has helped you to more clearly hear God's word?

When has God used you to teach someone principles from God's word?

How has your ability to hear God's word developed as you have taught it to others?

How are you constantly putting principles from God's word into practice?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Make it your daily habit to constantly put God's word into practice.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to put His word into constant practice.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are putting God's word into constant practice.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you hear and put God's word into your daily practice.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will hear and put your word in my daily practice.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I put your word into practice today?
