

"No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him." Luke 8:16-18 (NIV)

Listen And Hear

How will you know if you are really listening to me? How will you make sure that you are really hearing what I want you to hear? I will make time to hear from you. I will not race through life making myself unavailable to hear from you. I will sit at your feet. I will quiet myself before you. I will give you my undivided attention. I will make listening to you the absolute and highest priority of my life. I know that there is a difference between casually listening and really hearing. **What's the difference?** If I am only casually listening your word might go in my one ear and out the other. Such listening would have no real and lasting impact on my life. It probably would be better to not listen at all than to casually listen. **Why is that?** Casually listening might fool me into thinking that I was really hearing you. **That's true.**

How will you know if you are really listening and fully hearing me? I will put into practice all that you are teaching me. My thoughts and word and actions will be quite different if I am really listening and fully hearing you. **How will you know if your thoughts and words and actions are quite different because you have heard from me?** I will be shining brightly in the world for you. I will be a bold and bright witness for you. Others will have been drawn to you through the brightness of your light shining in and through my life. I will be receiving all that you want to give me. I will be growing into the person you have called me to become. **Is there anything else that you might have missed?** Well, it almost goes without saying that I will not be walking in darkness. I will be letting nothing prevent the brightness of your light from shining in and through me. If I have really listened and heard from you, I will be continually walking with you in the light. I will be continually separating myself from darkness so that I will be able to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. **Yes, you will. That will be very good.**

Lord, I want my life to shine brightly in the world for you. I do not want your light in me to be hidden. I will guard my life against any darkness that hinder my light from shining brightly for you. I will listen attentively to you. Give me all you want me to receive. Amen

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

"No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him."

NIV Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Hear*

"No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house. For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed will be brought to light and made known to all. "So pay attention to how you hear. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what they think they understand will be taken away from them."

NLT Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

"No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light. Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away."

NRSV Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

No one after he has lighted a lamp covers it with a vessel or puts it under a [dining table] couch; but he puts it on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light. For there is nothing hidden that shall not be disclosed, nor anything secret that shall not be known and come out into the open. Be careful therefore how you listen. For to him who has [spiritual knowledge] will more be given; and from him who does not have [spiritual knowledge], even what he thinks *and* guesses *and* supposes that he has will be taken away.

AMP Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

"Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed; but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light. "For nothing is hidden that will not become evident, nor *anything* secret that will not be known and come to light. "So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him *more* shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

NASB Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Hear*

"No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light. Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

ESV Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Hear*

"No one, when he has lit a lamp, covers it with a vessel or puts *it* under a bed, but sets *it* on a lampstand, that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor *anything* hidden that will not be known and come to light. Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him *more* will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him."

NKJV Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *Misers Of What You Hear*

"No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a washtub or shoves it under the bed. No, you set it up on a lamp stand so those who enter the room can see their way. We're not keeping secrets; we're telling them. We're not hiding things; we're bringing *everything* out into the open. So be careful that you don't become misers of what you hear. Generosity begets generosity. Stinginess impoverishes."

MSG Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

[Another time he asked.] "Who ever heard of someone lighting a lamp and then covering it up to keep it from shining? No, lamps are mounted in the open where they can be seen. This illustrates the fact that someday everything [in men's hearts] shall be brought to light and made plain to all. So be careful how you listen; for whoever has, to him shall be given more; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

TLB Luke 8:16-18

Becoming Like Christ *How You Listen*

"No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. Instead, the person puts it on a lampstand so those who come in will see the light. Everything that is hidden will become clear, and every secret thing will be made known. So be careful how you listen. Those who have understanding will be given more. But those who do not have understanding, even what they think they have will be taken away from them."

NCV Luke 8:16-18

How You Listen

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – Luke 8:16-18

In Context: *Read Luke 8*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

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

"No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from him." Luke 8:16-18 (NIV)

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

"No one | lights a lamp | and | hides it in a jar | or puts it under a bed. | Instead, | he puts it on a stand, | so that those | who come in | can see | the light. | For there is nothing hidden | that will not be disclosed, | and nothing concealed | that will not be known | or brought out | into the open. | Therefore | consider carefully | how you listen. | Whoever has | will be given more; | whoever does not have, | even what | he thinks he has | will be taken | from him." Luke 8:16-18 (NIV)

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

Lord, I want my life to shine brightly in the world for you. I do not want your light in me to be hidden. I will guard my life against any darkness that hinder my light from shining brightly for you. I will listen attentively to you. Give me all you want me to receive. Amen

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

How is your life like a candle shining in the darkness of this world?

How are you allowing the light of Christ to shine through you to others in the world?

What would be the equivalent of hiding the light of your life in a jar or under a bed?

How has the Lord used His light shining through you to draw others to Himself?

What darkness has the potential of making your light unable to shine for Christ?

How are you listening carefully to all that the Lord wants you to hear?

How are you making yourself available to receive more from the Lord?

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

Listen attentively to the Lord so that you will be able to shine brightly for Him in this dark world.

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

Have faith that the Lord will shine brightly through your life as you listen attentively to Him.

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

Share with another person or your small group how the light of your life is shining brightly in a dark world.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

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 listen attentively to the Lord so you will shine brightly in the world for Him.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, I will listen attentively to you so I can shine brightly for you in the world.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I listen attentively to you and shine brightly for you in the world today?
