

**GOD WANTS TO TALK TO YOU – pt 1**  
**“Can You Hear Me Now?”**  
**February 10, 2008**

Jesus: “*He who has ears to hear, let him hear!*”  
Luke 8:8 (NIV)

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HEAR GOD?**

• **IT PROVES I’M IN GOD’S FAMILY**

Jesus: “*My sheep recognize My voice and follow Me.*” John 10:27 (NLT)

• **IT PROTECTS ME FROM MISTAKES**

“*Listen for God’s voice in everything you do, and everywhere you go; He’s the one who will keep you on track.*” Pr. 3:6 (Mes)

• **IT PRODUCES PERSONAL SUCCESS**

“*I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.*” Ps. 32:8 (NLT)

**PREPARING TO HEAR GOD SPEAK**

Parable of the Soils - Luke 8:4-15

1. **CULTIVATE AN OPEN MIND**

“*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 of the air ate it up.*” Luke 8:5 (NIV)

“*Those along the footpath are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes along and takes away the word from their hearts, so they cannot believe and be saved.*” Luke 8:12 (NIV)

The hardened soil = A CLOSED MIND

2. **ALLOCATE TIME TO LISTEN**

“*Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. This seed began to grow, but soon it withered and died for lack of moisture.*” Luke 8:6 (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.*” Luke 8:13 (NLT)

The shallow soil = A SUPERFICIAL MIND

3. **ELIMINATE THE DISTRACTIONS**

“*Other seed fell in the weeds; the weeds grew with it and strangled it.*” Luke 8:7 (Mes)

“*The seed that fell among weeds 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.*”  
Luke 8:14 (NIV)

The soil with weeds = A PREOCCUPIED MIND

4. **COOPERATE WITH WHAT GOD SAYS**

“*The seeds that fell in good soil stand for those who hear the message and retain it in a good and obedient heart, and they persist until they bear fruit.*” Lk. 8:15 (GN)

The good soil = A WILLING MIND

“*...They listen to God’s words and cling to them and steadily spread them to others who also soon believe.” Luke 8:15 (LB)*