

## Listening to Jesus in Totality Mark 9:2-9

**Biblical Premise:** Last Sunday we spoke of listening to Jesus to overcome our anxiety. Today we go deeper and look at the four biblical levels of listening to Jesus that can change our lives.

**2** *And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3 and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them.*

Many archeologist and bible scholars believe that this mountain (Mt. Tabor) in northern Israel 7km (4.2 miles) east of Nazareth, this indeed the high mountain of the transfiguration.



**4** *And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. 5 And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” 6 For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified.*

Peter, James and John got to see something they did not expect: Moses and Elijah with Jesus. Why Moses and Elijah?

Moses is the Old Testament overseer of the LAW

Elijah is the Old Testament overseer of the PROPHETS.

Why did Jesus meet with Moses and Elijah shortly before he went to the cross.

*In Matthew 5:17 Jesus says: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."*



**7** *And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, **“This is my beloved Son; listen to him.”***

**8** *And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. 9 And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.*

Now we come to the heart of this text for us today: **The word of God in vs. 7 says “This is my beloved Son; listen to him. WE are commanded to **“LISTEN” TO JESUS.****

Jesus claims in Mark 12:30 that we are to love the Lord our God with *“all our heart, mind, soul and strength.”*



**We are to listen to God The Son, Jesus with the same intensity that we talked about last week. •Listen with our heart. •Listen with our mind. •Listen with our soul. •Listen with our strength (body).**

Listen to the prophet *Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?*

### **LISTEN TO JESUS IN YOUR HEART**

It means: turning your desires, wants, emotions over to Jesus for every thought, decision, or choice you make. Listening to Jesus means putting his will and his word as your priority in your heart for all decisions made.

### **LISTEN TO JESUS WITH OUR MIND?**

The mind is a funny thing! It is terribly pliable to bad thinking when it seems to be in our interest or cultural beliefs.

**Dennis F. Kinlaw** (1922—2017)



Satan disguises submission to himself under the ruse of personal autonomy. He never asks us to become his servants. Never once did the serpent say to Eve, “I want to be your master.” The shift in commitment is never from Christ to evil; it is always from Christ to self. And instead of his will, self-interest now rules and what I want reigns. And that is the essence of sin.

— *This Day With the Master*, November 14

This is why the believer in Jesus needs to be very cautious of social media it is destructive philosophies.

Rev. Thomas V. Parrish

**Items in RED can be turned into prayers this week.**

Bible readership in the U.S. 2018-2021 Published by In Statista [Amy Watson](#), May 23, 2022

A survey from 2021 found that 11 percent of Americans read the Bible daily, Millennials most likely to have never read the Bible, whereas the most frequent readers were those aged over 70 years old.

Listening to Jesus means not merely reading the Bible but comprehending what Jesus is telling us to do—prayer scripture examples.

### How to turn scripture into prayer

**Pray it straight from the Bible** – the Lord’s Prayer, Psalm 23 and Psalm 51 are all prayers that can be prayed word for word from Scripture.

**Personalize the Scriptures** – For example using [Colossians 2:10](#) which says:<sup>10</sup> *So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority. You could pray like this “Lord Jesus, I claim the completeness that is available through you. I pray that I will feel and be so whole that I will know I have all I need to live a full and holy life.”*



**Sing a Bible verse prayerfully** – Praise and worship songs are known to be based on Scripture.

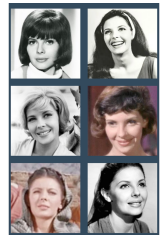
**Pray through topics from the Bible** – If you are doing a topical Bible study you can pray around what you are learning. As you study, the Holy Spirit will convict you of what to pray for.

### LISTEN JESUS WITH ALL YOUR SOUL

The soul is the part of you that is eternal and tells you death is wrong, eternity is real, that Jesus is the one and only savior who gives you purpose.

#### Julie Parrish quote on mediocre.

*"I was a small cog in the Hollywood meal machine," she said: Hollywood powerbrokers at that time sent out messengers to beauty pageants in order to locate the next Monroe or Mansfield. I set myself a task to prepare me not for roles as the dumb-nut but as a serious actress. I subordinated my social life to work on getting good acting jobs. Included in my six-day-a-week programme were two days of metaphysical lessons and study, two days of voice study and practice, one day of dance study and practice, one day at a comedy workshop and one day of piano study and practice. The result, after all the training, was a mediocre career.*



### LISTEN TO JESUS WITH OUR STRENGTH

Another adage: *“When all is said and done, More is said than done!”*

Jesus, through the H.S., will often prompt you and or give you opportunities to put into action what you have heard from him. ..What Jesus does is give you opportunities and invitations based on your desire to listen to him. His timing is perfect. His goal is to get you to listen to his voice. His goal is to get you to realize that this current moment, opportunity, circumstance are his timing for you.

#### Dr. Karl Menninger

“What would you advice someone to do if he felt a nervous breakdown coming on?”  
Most people expected the doctor to say, *“Consult a psychiatrist.”*  
Instead he said, *“Lock up your house, go across the railroad tracks, find someone in need, and do something to help that person.”*



### YOU ARE NOT MEANT TO LIVE A MEDIOCRE LIFE!

You are meant to be a life changer and an eternal destination because of your trust and faith in Jesus How do we do that? We do that by listen to God The Son, Jesus just as Moses and Elijah confirmed.

That happens when we intentionally, daily, for our entire life. •Listen with our heart •Listen with our mind •Listen with our soul •Listen with our strength.

Rev. Thomas V. Parrish

**Items in RED can be turned into prayers this week.**