

PSALM 1:1-3

¹ Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of
water, which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.





FAITH COMES BY HEARING



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HEAR?

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- Hearing entails either reading or listening, but it is always active (Eph. 3:4-5, Rom. 10:17).
- Is it a part of salvation? Is this even a useful question? Hearing is the first step in the process. Let's be careful not to be so rigid in the way we subdivide the steps of salvation. Each part of the process is woven into the others.

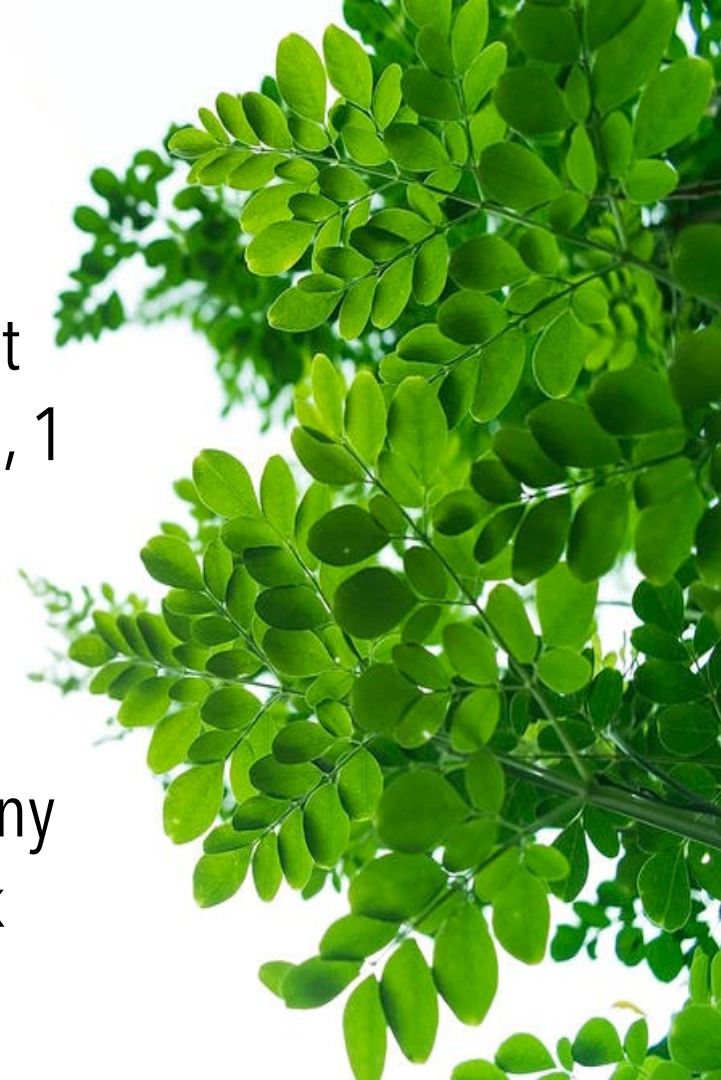
HAVING AN OPEN EAR

- Hearing builds faith because the word of Christ is like fuel – it drives our growth as it challenges us (1 Timothy 4:6, Psalm 1:1-6, 1 Peter 2:2, John 6:35).



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- Like putting wood in a furnace, our study and meditation of the scriptures keeps us kindled and producing for God. Sadly, many of us fail to grasp the simplicity of the task before us! See Eph. 3:3ff & 1 John 2:3-6.



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- Does ignorance make a difference in any other part of life? Does it matter whether or not it is willful?
- There are many reasons why one may not be listening to God, but none are valid. Often, it boils down to stubbornness (Zech. 7:11). John also brought up Isaiah 6:9-10 in John 12:37ff.

HEARING AND OBEDIENCE

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- Hearing must be followed by action. Also notice James 1:22-25.
- The difference between the wise man and the fool is not materials or circumstances. It is action based on knowledge.