

Ears to Hear  
Matthew 13:1-23

Review:

1. Some people don't receive the gospel because their hearts are hardened against Christ
2. Some people hear the gospel selectively, rejecting the difficulties of the Christian life
3. Some people hear the gospel faithlessly, either doubting God's providence or focusing too much on the things of this world
4. Christ saves us so that He might be glorified as we show and share His love and truth with others

Reflect:

1. What kind of soil do you think currently represents your life? What evidence can you give for your conclusion?

Go further: Read Isaiah 6:1-13

1. Who did Isaiah see in his vision? How does Isaiah describe Him?
2. How does Isaiah describe the seraphim? Why do you think they cover their faces and feet?
3. What do the seraphim call out to each other?
4. What effect do their voices have on the Temple?
5. What was the Temple filled with? How would this affect Isaiah's ability to see clearly?
6. What is Isaiah's reaction to his amazing vision?
7. How does Isaiah describe the moral condition of himself and his people?
8. What does Isaiah say that his eyes have seen? Why should this be a problem for him?
9. From where does one of the seraphim take a live coal? What does he do with it?
10. What does the seraph say the coal has done for Isaiah?
11. What question does the Lord ask in verse 8? How does Isaiah answer this question?
12. What two things does the Lord tell the people to do in verse 9?
13. What affect does the Lord tell Isaiah to have on the hearts, ears, and eyes of the people?
14. What does the Lord say He doesn't want the people to do with their eyes, ears, and hearts?
15. What question does Isaiah ask in verse 11?
16. In verses 11 and 12, what does the Lord say will happen to His people before they return to Him?
17. Who does the Lord say will return to the land?

Summary and Application:

1. Have you ever been convinced that the Lord was calling you to do something? How did you respond?
2. Isaiah's lips had to be cleansed by contact with the altar before he could deliver messages from God. Is there anything of which you need to be cleansed before you can be an effective ambassador for God?
3. Terebinth and oak trees can grow again from their stumps, even after they have been cut down. What does God's promise of renewal in verse 13 mean for you?