



Summer Selection Series  
Who Are You Listening To?  
From Sermon 8.31.25

Read *1 Corinthians 15:33-34*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: If last week's pinnacle question (How do I know if I'm saved?) addressed the eternal, this week's certainly addresses present day-to-day. The modern Christian has been duped and dulled into believing who we listen to has minimal impact on our faith. Not so. Sheep will always follow the voice of their master. So, the question becomes: who's my master? The churchy answer is proclaiming "Jesus is my Master." But are we actually listening to Him and His Word—or more so to the world and culture? While we can't avoid living in this lying world, we can protect our ears from its influence.

1. Read *Proverbs 4:23* & *Matthew 6:22-23*. Discuss: What we see and hear influences our thoughts, decisions, and actions.

2. What are some of the very real dangers of False teachers?

- They speak in "Christian-ese" and half-truths.
- Most have huge followings, ministries, and congregations which makes them seem credible.
- They never appear evil outwardly, but masquerade in sheep's clothing.

See also *Matthew 7:15* & *2 Corinthians 11:13-15*

3. Often, we give way too much credence to the so-called experts: Government, Academia, Science, Philosophy, Influencers, Social Media. Discuss the healthy balance trusting experts and still remaining biblically faithful. Examples: A doctor can be an expert in medical diagnosis and treatment, but that doesn't make them spiritual advisors. You need a good lawyer for legal matters; that doesn't make them credible in values. A science major may know about detailed universal structures; that doesn't mean they know the truth about origins and history. List other examples you can think of.

4. Review and discuss the three biblical examples from Sunday of those who listened to the wrong people and the cost they paid.

Adam—Listen to Eve (who had listened to the serpent/devil) and he fell. Adam entered into death and separation from Holy God, and all his descendants with him.

Rehoboam—Shunned the counsel of his elders and listened, instead, to the friends of his youth. The northern tribes further rebelled and the nation was plagued by civil wars.

Ahab—Refused to listen to the Prophet of God (Elijah). Instead listened to his wife, Jezebell. Was killed by God's design and is lost.

5. What is the spiritual gift/discipline of discernment and why is it critical? See *1 John 4:1* & *4-6*. Discernment is the ability to weigh all things next to the whole of Scripture, thereby revealing that which is true and from God and that which is false and from the enemy. While every genuine believer is granted some level of discernment, there are those who are spiritually gifted with great discernment. We should seek out those mature believers when needing greater advice.

5a. Do you think this trait and the view of its value is increasingly absent from Christ's Church? Absolutely.