



**April 15, 2020 | A Healthy Church Member is an Expositional Listener**

***How Can Church Members Cultivate The Habit of Expositional Listening?***

*"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."*

*Joshua 1:8*

If expositional listening is so vital to the health of individual church members, and the church as a whole, how does a person form such a habit? We will look at six practical ideas that can foster more attentive listening to God's Word.

**1. MEDITATE ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DURING YOUR QUIET TIME**

**a.** Spend your \_\_\_\_\_ on the word of God.

Take initiative to outline the scriptural passage so you can \_\_\_\_\_ and expose the true meaning of the text.

**b. Use the S.O.A.P. Study Method**

**i.** \_\_\_\_\_ – to whom was the scripture written? Who are the main persons mentioned in the scripture? What is the overall message of the passage? In what way(s) is God revealed in this passage?

**ii.** \_\_\_\_\_ – what words or phrases are repeated in the passage? Are there any specific commands to follow? Are there any promises from God, errors to avoid, truths to believe, etc.?

**iii.** \_\_\_\_\_ – what verse(s) should I memorize? What are things that I can do or that I haven't been doing or things that I should stop doing? How can I share what I've learned with someone else?

**iv.** \_\_\_\_\_ – What are some things that I should pray about? Who are some people that I should pray for?

Note: For effective meditation on God's Word, you should begin and end with

\_\_\_\_\_.

**2. INVEST IN A GOOD SET OF \_\_\_\_\_**

- a. Add to your quiet time some of the greatest minds in Church history.
- b. It is suggested that you secure a survey of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ in the study of God's Word should be something that every mature believer desire.
- d. A commentary will help you to understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of the passage that you are reading/studying.

**3. TALK AND PRAY WITH \_\_\_\_\_ ABOUT THE SERMON**

- a. Instead of rushing out of the sanctuary, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after the worship.
- b. Start \_\_\_\_\_ by asking, "How did the scripture challenge or speak to you today?"
- c. The more you feed your spirit the less likely you'll be \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Pray that God would keep the congregation from becoming \_\_\_\_\_ and that they have an increasingly strong desire for the \_\_\_\_\_ of his Word.

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ ON THE SERMON THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

- a. Don't just listen to the sermon, \_\_\_\_\_ upon it.
- b. Don't allow the Sunday sermon to become a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over.
- c. Take advantage of your \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the week.

- d. Allow time and space in your life and among your family to \_\_\_\_\_ in discussion about the sermon.

**5. DEVELOP THE HABIT OF \_\_\_\_\_ ABOUT THE TEXT ITSELF**

- a. If **YOU** devote yourself to the \_\_\_\_\_, the church would find themselves becoming a healthy entity.
- b. Don't be \_\_\_\_\_ in your private study, take time to \_\_\_\_\_ the scriptures to find answers that you are pondering.
- c. Seek out opportunities to encourage your pastor and teachers as they teach God's word but remember the greatest compliment is \_\_\_\_\_.

**6. CULTIVATE \_\_\_\_\_**

- a. As you study God's word, you will indeed begin to grow but don't allow your knowledge of the word to make you become \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Always be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ something, no one knows everything.
- c. Shun the feeling and appearances of pride, condemnation of others, and critical nitpicking.
- d. "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:" – 1 Peter 5:6
- i. If you stay \_\_\_\_\_ long enough, God will make you \_\_\_\_\_ soon enough.

**Next Week's Lesson:** *A Healthy Church Member Is A Biblical Theologian*