

Altapass Allegories
by
A Church Member

God gave us five senses. Of course, that is no new revelation to anyone. However, I often wonder just how well we use such marvelous gifts. Let's consider just one of the five for a few moments. How about the great gift of hearing? I suppose everyone has at one time or another known someone that was hearing impaired. It was probably easy to recognize that this person had to compensate in some way. However, most of us have sufficient hearing to deal with our daily lives. Do we really use our hearing abilities fully in the way God intended? For example, just how much do we really hear? Do we actually hear the birds sing, the squirrels chatter, the breeze rustle the leaves, or the happy laughter of children at play? Do we listen to a friend who really needs someone to hear what they have to say? Or do we only half listen and cut our friend short because we feel we must hurry on to something more important? Perhaps a child is trying to tell us what is on his mind and we don't give him our full attention. When the preacher is pouring out his heart to us, do we really try to absorb what is being said? It is said that "white noise" such as the sound of soothing music or the sound of a waterfall is supposed to be calming. Even when we have access to these sounds but don't truly listen they are of no benefit.

Maybe the greatest gift of hearing isn't of the natural ear. Maybe it's the gift of the Holy Spirit speaking to our hearts. If the sweet Spirit speaks to us to comfort us or direct our paths, how very much we lose if we do

not use our spiritual ears to listen! Perhaps we lose more than with the loss of our natural hearing.

February was supposed to be the month of the heart and of love. Hopefully, we all made an effort to listen with our hearts as well as our ears. Listen closely especially when our Heavenly Father speaks to us. Let's give Him our full attention.

Proverbs 20:12