



“After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, “ Follow Me.”
So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.” (Lk. 5:27-28)

How to Listen to a Sermon?

Preparation

- **Be well rested**
 - A rested mind is a more attentive mind
- **Limit media consumption**
 - “TV watching and preaching are diametrically opposed to one another - one is visual, the other is rational; one involves the eyes, the other involves the ears; one creates passive watchers, the other requires active hearers.” (Timothy Turner)



Preparation

- **Come on time**
- **Come with the right mindset**
 - “Speak, for Your servant hears.”
(1 Sam. 3:10)
- **Pray**
 - “May we be worthy to hear and to act according to Your Holy Gospels.” (Liturgy of St. Basil)
 - “Praying always...for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” (Eph. 6:18,19-20)



During the Sermon

- **Body Posture**
- **Avoid distractions**
- **Make the message personal**
 - For my edification, repentance, or warning
 - Avoid being oversensitive
 - “Now as they were eating, He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.” And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, “Lord, is it I?” (Matt. 26:21-22)



During Sermon

- Remove any prejudice or negative feelings you have towards the preacher
- God's message is the same regardless who preaches
- Do not let your opinions or feelings towards a preacher hinder your ears from hearing God's message.



During Sermon

- Pharisees' encounter with Man Born Blind
- “So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! **We know that this Man is a sinner.**” He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.” Then they said to him again, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?” He answered them, “I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?” (Jn. 9:24-27)



During Sermon

- Take notes (optional)
- Help you stay focused
- Help you commit words to memory
- Available for future reference



After Sermon

- There is always something God wants us to do in response to the preaching of His word.
- Try to take away one lesson or principle and one realistic application
- “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” (Jam. 1:22)
- “You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.” (2 Cor. 3:2-3)