



## **Encountering the Light of God (Luke 8:16-21)**

1. What are some of the ways you prepare to hear a sermon? What are some of the everyday things that can distract you from coming to church prepared to hear God speaking to you?
2. Have you ever felt the weight that God's Word is going to be read and that God will be speaking to you?
3. Read verse 16. In this verse Jesus teaches the crowds about himself, his teaching and his ministry through the use of a short proverb about a lamp.

As you look at the verse, consider these questions:

- What is the purpose of light?
- What is the light in a lamp a representative of?
- Why would you need to put a lamp on a stand?
- What is the use of light if it is not seen?

“The Gospel which we possess was not given us only to be admired, talked of, and professed, but to be practised. It was not meant merely to reside in our intellect, and memories, and tongues, but to be seen in our lives. Christianity is a talent committed to our charge, and one which brings with it great responsibility.” - J. C. Ryle

4. Read verse 17. Can the light of the gospel be hidden in a person's life? If it is hidden, what is the person who is hiding the gospel in danger of?
5. Read verse 18. What surprises you about Jesus' instruction to listen carefully? Do you consider yourself to be a good listener to Jesus? Why/why not?
6. Read Luke 19:11-27. In Luke 8:18 Jesus says: ‘Whoever has will be given more: whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken from

him.’ How does the passage in Luke 19:11-27 help us understand what Jesus is saying? What is Jesus trying to teach us here?

How can letting ‘light’ fill your heart help you to listen carefully? (e.g. what is the light in the parable, what does the light do, and how does this help you listen to Jesus?)

7. Read Luke 8:19-21. It looks like Jesus is disowning his family. Is this true? Why/why not? If Jesus is not disowning his family then what is He saying?

8. What are the main points of Luke 8 16:18 and 19-21? Why do you think Jesus is placing such a huge amount of emphasis on these points?

9. What does it mean for you that if you hear God’s word and obey it that you are visibly showing that you belong to God’s family?

10. What will you do to enable yourself to listen well as you spend time daily in God’s Word and attend Church on Sundays?

End the study praying for each other that as we gather at Church and come to God daily, that we would listen to him well, hear God’s word and obey it.