



From Hearing to Transformation

Word of Truth · By Pst Dr Nellie Shani | Founder, CEO · February 16, 2026

Discover how to become “good soil” for God’s Word. Learn how hearing, retaining, and applying Scripture leads to spiritual growth, renewed minds (Romans 12:2), and lasting transformation.

“Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown” – Luke 8:8.

IN the Parable of the Sower, Jesus teaches a powerful truth: the condition of our hearts determines whether the Word of God produces fruit in our lives. The reason we gather for church, sermons, and Bible teaching is not simply to listen—but to be transformed.

Why We Go to Church: Transformation Through God’s Word

Scripture tells us in Romans 12:2:

“Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

True Christian transformation happens when our minds are renewed through Scripture. Spiritual growth does not occur automatically just because we attend church. It happens when the Word of God takes root in receptive hearts.

The important question is:

How much of the Word preached every Sunday falls on good soil?

Sadly, much of it falls on distracted, tired, or disinterested hearts. Sleepiness, wandering thoughts, mobile phones, stress, and the cares of life often compete for our attention. When the soil is distracted, the seed struggles to grow.

What Is “Good Soil”?

Jesus explains in Luke 8:15:

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”

Good soil is marked by three things:

Hearing the Word of God

Retaining (remembering and meditating on) the Word

Persevering until it produces fruit

Spiritual fruitfulness requires intentional listening and obedience.

How to Hear and Retain the Word of God

In a world full of distractions, we must deliberately cultivate spiritual focus. Here are practical ways to grow in hearing and retaining God’s Word:

1. Eliminate Distractions

Silence your phone. Calm your thoughts. Prepare your heart before the sermon begins. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you focus.

2. Take Notes During the Sermon

Writing key points helps improve memory and understanding. It allows the message to move from passive hearing to active engagement.

3. Share What You Learned

Repeating the message to a friend or family member strengthens retention and deepens understanding.

4. Reflect and Apply

Ask yourself:

What does this Scripture reveal about God?

What is God saying to me personally?

What is He asking me to change?

What is He asking me to start doing?

Transformation happens when we move from hearing to doing.

The Role of the Holy Spirit in Spiritual Growth

We cannot bear spiritual fruit in our own strength. We need the help of the Holy Spirit to:

Understand God's Word

Apply it to daily life

Obey it faithfully

Persevere when it is challenging

When we allow the Spirit to work in us, the Word of God produces lasting change in our thoughts, attitudes, and actions.

A Call to Listen

Revelation 2:7 reminds us:

“Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

God is always speaking. The question is not whether He is speaking—but whether we are truly listening.

When the Word of God falls on good soil, it does not return empty. It produces a harvest—changed thinking, transformed living, and visible spiritual fruit.

May we be people who not only hear the Word but retain it, obey it, and allow it to transform our lives.

Prayer Points for Spiritual Growth

Repentance for Distraction

Ask the Lord to forgive you for times when you have not listened attentively to His Word.

Help to Hear and Obey

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you honor God by giving careful attention to Scripture and obeying it fully.

Gratitude for Teachers of the Word

Thank the Father for pastors, teachers, and leaders He has called to faithfully preach and teach

His Word.