

Wednesday 21st April 2021

James 1 - 19

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

In today's world of gadgets, we so often just text now. No need to talk properly, but are we really wanting to live our lives tapping messages to one another, never hearing the recipients voice? We have begun to lose the interaction of listening, seeing and the feeling of closeness with one another. There is no way that one can sense the emotions or see the facial expressions if one just sends text messages or emails constantly. True listening to someone is special; it is not an easy thing to do. I mean to really listen, with all our hearts, minds, and the need to be as one with the person or people you might be conversing with. Have you been in the situation when the other person says "are you listening to me?" I am included in this I have been known to daydream on occasion.

I am sure when one has been so busy that when the children ask questions it's very easy to fob them off with a quick answer. But that can really cause problems as one might just miss something quite important that they might have been trying to ask. And in just giving the quick reply the moment that was important to them has gone.

But of course not just the children we do the same very often when going about our busy daily lives. Resulting in the same consequences as with the children, moments lost to hurried answers. If you do take the time to listen, really listen you can guarantee that the time you spent listening will bear much more fruit and be much more appreciated.

It's the same when listening for God speaking to us, he always listens, when we speak to him. When he spent time with his people he was always able to convey to them that he had listened, by the acts he did guiding and healing helping the people on their journey. As God did it then, and as Jesus did in his Father's name. therefore, it is continuing right up to today. And will do so into the future. Let us dare to put the laptops, mobile phones, etc. and just take time to be with our friends. And then we may take the time to LISTEN with all our hearts and minds and truly carry God's word and all his love to one another with as much measure as he has given us.

Loving Lord, we pray that we learn to be still and to listen for your still small voice of calm. Enter our hearts and minds and create a new spirit within us and we pray this in your precious Holy name. Amen.