

# Listen Up

ED LOVE | JANUARY 16, 2018

*“ALRIGHT, EVERYBODY IN,” I bellowed to my basketball team. It was halftime, the game was tied, and we wanted to win. It was the first time I had coached my children’s team, and I had made a lot of observations from the first half that needed to be communicated. As the kids huddled around me, their eyes were locked on to me like a cat tracking down a mouse. They were ready to listen because they knew what I had to say might help them win the game.*

*When Jesus walked this earth, He had a lot of important things to teach His followers. Often, He would make an observation from the world around Him, then use it as a metaphor in His teaching. On this particular day, Jesus climbed into His floating pulpit and began to share with His hearers the profound parable of the sower. Every eye was locked in, and all attention was on Jesus as He gave His disciples a deeper understanding of the truth.*

*God enjoys listening to us bare our souls, but He also enjoys speaking to us and grounding us in the way, the truth, and the life. Sometimes our busy and distraction-filled lives prevent us from focusing on Jesus, our caring coach. Lean in, and listen to what God may say to you.*

***Pay attention to your surroundings and listen for God’s voice of truth.***

\*Ed Love serves as the Director of Multiplication for The Wesleyan Church, and is the author of *Fear Not* (WPH) and *Reclaiming Hope* (WPH)

## January 21, 2018

FOCUS Wesleyan Church

In Christ Alone - “Prayer”

### Sermon Notes:

Matthew 6:8

John 15:7

Matthew 20:20-23

1 Kings 1:15-21

2 Samuel 20:16-22

Matthew 20:17-19

### 1. Check your \_\_\_\_\_

James 4:3

Matthew 20:29-34

### 2. Cry out with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 6:18

### 3. Their prayer was \_\_\_\_\_ by Jesus

1 John 3:21-24

Psalms 139:23-24

### 4. Their prayer was answered in the \_\_\_\_\_

**Reflection:** What is one new thing you believe God spoke to you today as a result of worshipping at FOCUS?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Word of God directs us as we consider what the **next step** is for our lives. What is your next step? Has there been a wrong motivation to your prayers in the past? Is there unconfessed sin that is stopping your prayers from being answered by the Lord?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Challenge:** This week I will pray for following national and/or local government leader(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

### ***Communion at FOCUS***

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the Lord's Table, also known as Communion. We have open communion which means all are invited to receive. We receive communion elements by intinction. Tearing off a small piece of the loaf of bread, dipping it in the communion glass of juice, and then consuming it immediately. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies.

### ***FOCUS Youth Group - will be meeting tonight!***

6:30-8 PM! Friends invited and snacks provided!

### ***Sanctity of Human Life***

Today is a special day where we honor and respect God's view on Human life. Tomorrow, Monday, Jan. 22 is the national emphasis day. If you would like to gain more information, please visit:

[www.wesleyan.org/tag/sanctity-of-life](http://www.wesleyan.org/tag/sanctity-of-life)

***Please Pray for our Missions  
Team in Uganda - January  
11th - 24th***



**FOCUS**  
WESLEYAN CHURCH

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WELCOME

THANKS FOR JOINING US