

In the Crucible with Christ

Dying Like a Seed

Lesson #12 for September 17, 2022

Scriptures: Philippians 2:5-9; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Samuel 2:12-3:18; 13:1-14; Zechariah 4:1-14; John 12:24.

1. What did Jesus say about dying like a seed?

John 12:24: “I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. **If it does die, then it produces many grains.**”—American Bible Society. (1992). *The Holy Bible: The Good News Translation** (2nd ed., John 12:24). New York: American Bible Society [abbreviated as *Good News Bible*].^{†‡}

[From the Bible study guide=BSG:] Jesus’ picture of a kernel of wheat dying is a fascinating analogy of our submission to God’s will. **First**, there is the falling. The kernel that falls from the wheat stalk has no control over where or how it falls to the ground. It has no control over the ground that surrounds and then presses over it.

Second, there is the waiting. As the kernel lies in the earth, it does not know what the future holds. It cannot “imagine” what life will be like in the future, for it is only a kernel of wheat.

Third, there is the dying. The kernel cannot possibly become a wheat stalk unless it gives up its safe, comfortable situation as a kernel. It must “die”; that is, it must give up what it has always been before so it may be transformed from a seed into a fruit-bearing plant.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Sabbath Afternoon, September 10.^{†‡}

2. Don’t we have adequate opportunity to learn God’s will for our lives? We have Scripture, and we have the writings of Ellen White. Why is it so difficult to choose to follow God’s will as opposed to following our own will?
3. Is it always clear what God wants us to do? A careful examination of the Scriptures and the writings of Ellen White make it clear that God asks us to do three essential things to “grow” our Christian experience: (1) Bible study, (2) Prayer, and (3) Witnessing. How many of these things are major activities in our lives? What would happen if all Seventh-day Adventists practiced doing these three things? What would happen to us if we did them on a regular basis?

It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example.—Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy** 598.2.

4. In this series of lessons, we have talked about crucibles and the greatest Example of all of someone who experienced crucibles was Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:5-11: ⁵ The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had:

⁶ He always had the nature of God,

but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God.

⁷ Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant.

He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness.

⁸ He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross.

⁹ For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name.

¹⁰ And so, in honour of the name of Jesus

all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees,

¹¹ and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

5. In Philippians 2:5-8, we learn three things that we need to understand to follow the example of Jesus: (1) Our minds need to be like those of Jesus Christ; (2) Jesus came to this earth and took upon Himself human nature with all our limitations; and (3) He did not come as a powerful, even glorious, human Being; but instead, He came like all other human beings.
6. We know that Jesus came not only to live that noble life without sinning but also to die that death to demonstrate the results of sin.
7. Jesus died, accused of being a traitor to the Roman government. He died in the most ignominious way in which the government of Rome could imagine—held up to contempt for all eyes to see, dying as a common criminal.
8. Jesus died a terrible death from a human standpoint. His real death was a death that resulted from sin. **He took upon Himself sin**, not because He was a sinner. Jesus died the death that sinners will die in the end, separated from God the only Source of life. He did this to prove that what He had said in the Garden of Eden was true.

Genesis 2:16-17: [The LORD God said:] ¹⁶ “You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, ¹⁷except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day.”—*Good News Bible*.^{*‡}

9. **His message was painfully clear as stated by Paul in Romans 6:23.**

Romans 6:23: For sin pays its wage—death.—*Good News Bible*.^{*†}

[From the writings of Ellen G. White=EGW:] [As He hung on the cross:] The wrath of God against sin, the terrible manifestation of His displeasure because of iniquity, filled the soul of His Son with consternation. All His life Christ had been publishing to a fallen world the good news of the Father’s mercy and pardoning love. Salvation for the chief of sinners was His theme. But now with the terrible weight of guilt He bears, **He cannot see the Father’s reconciling face. The withdrawal of the divine countenance**

from the Saviour in this hour of supreme anguish pierced His heart with a sorrow that can never be fully understood by man. So great was this agony that His physical pain was hardly felt.

Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. **The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb.** Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. **He feared that sin was so offensive to God that Their separation was to be eternal. Christ felt the anguish which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race.** It was the sense of sin, bringing the Father's wrath upon Him as man's substitute, that made the cup He drank so bitter, and broke the heart of the Son of God.—Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages** 753.1-2.^{†‡} [Remember that the Bible term, *God's wrath*, is His allowing us to separate from Him as we persistently insist. Those who thus insist will then cease to exist.][‡]

10. Notice that the wrath of God caused Him to withdraw from sinners. When He withdrew from Jesus on the cross, it broke the heart of Jesus and caused His death. God did not torture Christ on the cross. God "let him go." (See Matthew 27:46.) At the third coming, God will not be torturing the wicked; He will be withdrawing from them, and they will experience that terrible separation from God, the same as Christ experienced on the cross.
11. Jesus's most awful experience was feeling the separation from His Father as the Father withdrew Himself from His Son **as if** Jesus were a sinner at the third coming. Do we experience that kind of terrible feeling of separation from God every time we are led into sin? There is a great emphasis in our culture today on demanding one's rights. Each individual group wants to demand its own rights. Christians should only demand their rights if those rights are consistent with Christian ideals. Satan demanded his rights in heaven; we know the results! How often do I demand my human rights and, thus, avoid doing God's will for my life?

[EGW:] Jesus did not contend for His rights. Often His work was made unnecessarily severe because He was willing and uncomplaining. Yet He did not fail nor become discouraged. He lived above these difficulties, as if in the light of God's countenance. He did not retaliate when roughly used, but bore insult patiently.—Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages** 89.4.[‡]

12. Does our Christian responsibility include knocking on people's doors to become better acquainted with them, and then inviting them to study the Bible? Could it just mean leaving some literature at their doors? Does it include speaking up when we see or hear someone making fun of Christianity? Or, speaking up even when someone is using God's name as a swear word? Does it mean volunteering to assist with various programs at the church?

Romans 12:1-2: So then, my brothers and sisters, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: **offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him.** This is the true worship that you should offer. ²Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your

mind. **Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.**—*Good News Bible*.*†

13. What does it mean to be a *living sacrifice* according to Romans 12?
14. It is important to notice that God is asking for living sacrifices, not dead sacrifices! So, what is a living sacrifice? This is a challenging and very personal question. Do you know what being a living sacrifice means in your own life?
15. After considering Romans 12:1-2, does it require any sacrifice to give up our favorite forms of entertainment and, instead, to study the Bible and pray? What kind of sacrifice is required to go out witnessing to our neighbors?
16. The work of the Holy Spirit is partially to let us know about the trouble spots in our lives. Elizabeth Elliott wrote:

[BSG:] “The surrender of our heart’s deepest longing is perhaps as close as we come to an understanding of the cross. . . . Our own experience of crucifixion, though immeasurably less than our Savior’s, nonetheless furnishes us with a chance to begin to know Him in the fellowship of His sufferings. In every form of our own suffering, He calls us to that fellowship.”—*Quest for Love* (Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1996), p. 182.—[as quoted in *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Monday, September 12].#§

17. We need to have a clear understanding of God’s plan for our lives. We must be willing to do His will instead of our will. Then, our minds will be renewed. But, notice death to self comes before we can know God’s will for us.
18. Are we willing to specifically ask the Holy Spirit to inform us about any area(s) in our lives which need(s) to be given up?
19. First Samuel 2:12-3:18 tell the terrible story of the disobedience, open rebellion, and wicked lives of Eli’s sons. Into that awful situation, Hannah gave her son who had been given to her miraculously following her prayer at the sanctuary. She gave Samuel to live in that sanctuary under the direction of Eli.

1 Samuel 3:10: The LORD came and stood there, and called as he had before, “Samuel! Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Speak; your servant is listening.”—*Good News Bible*.*

20. Think of the incredible contrast presented in these stories. Eli, the high priest for the nation of Israel and presumed to be the one to speak on God’s behalf to the people, and his evil sons, pretending to be priests are passed over; God spoke to the young boy, Samuel, living in the sanctuary.

[EGW:] The neglect of Eli is brought plainly before every father and mother in the land. As the result of his unsanctified affection or his unwillingness to do a disagreeable duty, he reaped a harvest of iniquity in his perverse sons. **Both the parent who permitted the wickedness and the children who practiced it were guilty before God**, and He would accept no sacrifice or offering for their transgression.—Ellen G. White, *Child Guidance** 276.2.†‡

21. Would God speak to us if we were open to listening? The well-known preacher Charles Stanley suggested something interesting.

[BSG:] **“The Holy Spirit . . . does not speak for the sake of passing along information.** He speaks to get a response. And He knows when our agenda has such a large slice of our attention that it is a waste of time to suggest anything to the contrary. When that is the case, He is often silent. He waits for us to become neutral enough to hear and eventually obey.”—*The Wonderful Spirit-Filled Life* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1992), pp. 179, 180.—[as quoted in *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Tuesday, September 13].^{†‡§} [Did the Holy Spirit speak to and through the Bible writers “for the sake of passing along information” to us in the Bible, especially information about the Father and how He has dealt with sin in the universe? Or, was it to get “a response”?][‡]

What would it mean in our lives to be still and listen for the voice of God?

22. The story of Eve in the Garden of Eden is an example of what happens when human beings reject following God’s will and believe that they can make wise choices based on their own understanding and feelings.
23. Another example of that sort of terrible mistake is the story of Saul. Saul had been anointed by Samuel as a choice that the people wanted for their new king. Then, Samuel gave directions to Saul, telling him to go to face off with the Philistines. The story is told as follows:

1 Samuel 13:1-14: [Footnote: One ancient translation does not have verse 1; Hebrew has as verse 1 *Saul was... years old when he became king, and he was king of Israel for two years.* The Hebrew text is defective at two points in this verse.]

² Saul picked 3,000 men, keeping 2,000 of them with him in Michmash and in the hill country of Bethel and sending 1,000 with his son Jonathan to Gibeah, in the territory of the tribe of Benjamin. The rest of the men Saul sent home.

³ Jonathan killed the Philistine commander in Geba, and all the Philistines heard about it. Then Saul sent messengers to call the Hebrews to war by blowing a trumpet throughout the whole country. ⁴All the Israelites were told that Saul had killed the Philistine commander and that the Philistines hated them. So the people answered the call to join Saul at Gilgal.

⁵ **The Philistines assembled to fight the Israelites; they had 30,000 war chariots, 6,000 horsemen, and as many soldiers as there are grains of sand on the seashore.** They went to Michmash, east of Bethaven, and camped there. ⁶Then they launched a strong attack against the Israelites, putting them in a desperate situation. Some of the Israelites hid in caves and holes or among the rocks or in pits and wells; ⁷others crossed the River Jordan into the territories of Gad and Gilead.

Saul was still at Gilgal, and the people with him were trembling with fear. ⁸He waited seven days for Samuel, as Samuel had instructed him to do, but Samuel still had not come to Gilgal. The people began to desert Saul, ⁹so

he said to them, “Bring me the burnt sacrifices and the fellowship sacrifices.” He offered a burnt sacrifice, ¹⁰and just as he was finishing, Samuel arrived. Saul went out to meet him and welcome him, ¹¹but Samuel said, “What have you done?”

Saul answered, “The people were deserting me, and you had not come when you said you would; besides that, the Philistines are gathering at Michmash. ¹²**So I thought, ‘The Philistines are going to attack me here in Gilgal, and I have not tried to win the LORD’s favour.’ So I felt I had to offer a sacrifice.**”

¹³ **“That was a foolish thing to do,” Samuel answered.** “You have not obeyed the command the LORD your God gave you. If you had obeyed, he would have let you and your descendants rule over Israel for ever. [sic] ¹⁴But now your rule will not continue. Because you have disobeyed him, **the LORD will find the kind of man he wants and make him ruler of his people.**”—*Good News Bible*. *†‡§

24. Notice carefully the three steps that led to Saul’s downfall and the progression.

[BSG:] 1. Saul said, **“I saw”** (*NIV*)—the scattering of his troops and Samuel’s absence (*1 Sam. 13:11*). Saul was under pressure, and he evaluated with his own eyes what was happening.

2. Saul moved from **“I saw” to “I said”**—that the Philistines would conquer them (*1 Sam. 13:12, NKJV*). What he saw with his own eyes shaped what he said, or surmised, about the situation.

3. Saul moved from **“I said” to “I felt”**—compelled to offer sacrifice (*1 Sam. 13:12, NKJV*). What Saul thought now shaped his feelings.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Wednesday, September 14. †‡§

25. Saul had been given very clear instructions as to what he was to do. Why was it so easy for him to ignore those instructions and move forward with his own ideas? What might lead us to make similar mistakes? When are we supposed to use our own thinking and logic as opposed to following what we know God has told us?

26. Satan has many devices that he will suggest as substitutes for doing God’s will. Some people bury themselves in entertainment. Others seek to bury themselves in their work. Still others seek to find company among their friends as a substitute for following God’s will. Notice three common substitutes we may use in place of following God.

[BSG:] 1. We use human logic or past experience when we need fresh divine revelation.

2. We block problems from our minds when we need divine solutions.

3. We escape reality and avoid God when we need communion with Him for divine power.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Thursday, September 15. ‡

27. The story of Israel’s downfall and final conquest by the Babylonians is a terrible example of people turning away from God’s will for their lives. When Medo-Persia became the ruling power following a period of 70 years when Judah was in Babylonian captivity, the Jews were given the opportunity to return to Jerusalem. Only a very small percentage of

them actually attempted to do that. One of the first things they needed to do after going home was to build a new temple. It was a much smaller structure than the wonderful building which Solomon had constructed; but, it was what they could do. That rebuilding of the temple was being done under the guidance and inspiration of Haggai and Zechariah.

28. In chapter 4, Zechariah described the fact that their only safety in that situation was clearly and carefully to follow God's plan for their lives. In this case, they actually did; and they accomplished a great work in a relatively short period of time. The temple was rebuilt and the people rejoiced.

29. So, how do you respond when you find yourself in a crucible? Do you turn to food? Television? Or, prayer? With submission to God? Think about your personal experiences.

[BSG:] Submission to God's will comes as we die to our own desires and ambitions. This opens the way for true service to others. We cannot live for God without becoming sacrifices and living in continual openness to God's voice. For us truly to submit our wills to our Father's will, we must recognize the dangers of relying on ourselves and on substitutes for God's Word and power. As submission to God's will is at the heart of a Christlike life, God may allow crucibles to teach us dependence on Him.—*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** for Friday, September 16.‡

30. We truly believe that our only hope is in becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. Think of His incredible condescension. How much do we have to give up in order to follow Him?

31. It might seem scary to give up our customary choices and move forward following God's plan for our lives without knowing for sure where that will lead. God's will led Jesus all the way to the cross! That seemed like a terrible idea; but, it was the means of saving some of the inhabitants of our world and securing the entire universe by demonstrating the terrible results of sin.

32. Is it possible that one of the things that we need to do is pray for those we know who are needing God's guidance in their lives? How can we convince people that following God's will is the best way and the only right way for their lives?

[BSG:] Death is a fascinating element in all religions. In biblical Christianity, death has two connotations. On one hand, death is the result of, and punishment for, sin. On the other hand, our life with God starts with death—death to sin. Only when we experience this death to sin can we fully enjoy life in God's kingdom. Death to sin leads to overcoming and confronting the death that is the result of sin. But both events are possible because of Christ's death for us.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 158.‡

33. The lesson for this week highlights two major themes.

[BSG:] 1. Death to sin sets the framework for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. **The Spirit Himself personally implements the transformation of our characters unto the image of Jesus Christ and empowers us to live lives of sacrificial service and obedience to God.**

2. If we do not experience death to sin, we will continue a life of self-centeredness and self-service, a life of sin that, in fact, leads to death.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 158.†‡

34. So, what does it mean to *die to sin*? Clearly, a *life of sin* means following the example of Satan himself and living a life of self-centeredness and selfishness!
35. As we read earlier in this lesson, Adam and Eve were given very clear instructions regarding what they could do and could not do in the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 2:16-17: ¹⁶He said to him, “You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, ¹⁷except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day.”—*Good News Bible*.*

36. Was there some poisonous element in that fruit? No! Everything God had made in the garden was perfect. So, what was the problem with that tree? There was nothing inherently wrong with that tree or the fruit or any of the other trees in the garden.

[EGW:] There was nothing poisonous in the fruit of the tree of knowledge itself, nothing that would cause death in partaking of it. The tree had been placed in the garden to test their loyalty to God.—Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*,* February 13, 1896, par. 7.‡

Genesis 1:31: God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased. Evening passed and morning came—that was the sixth day.—*Good News Bible*.*†

Genesis 2:1-3: ¹And so the whole universe was completed. ²By the seventh day God finished what he had been doing and stopped working. ³He blessed the seventh day and set it apart as a special day, because by that day he had completed his creation and stopped working.—*Good News Bible*.*

37. Sin only entered the human race when Eve and then Adam intentionally chose to disobey God’s instructions. However, sin first entered the universe with the thoughts and actions of Lucifer/Satan.

Romans 5:12: Sin came into the world through one man, and his sin brought death with it. As a result, death has spread to the whole human race because everyone has sinned.—*Good News Bible*.*

38. The name of that tree is interesting. What does it mean to say that it is a *tree of knowledge of good and evil*? Certainly, there is nothing wrong with having a knowledge of good. Satan claimed that having a knowledge of good and evil would make us more Godlike!
39. But, **what Satan was challenging Eve to do was to ignore the clear guidance that God had given and to set herself up as the standard for deciding what was right and what was wrong.** When we do that, we choose to sin. We are suggesting that our will is more important than God’s will. In effect, we are placing ourselves in God’s place.

[BSG:] Thus, the name of the tree and the narrative of Genesis 2 and 3 indicate that what changed was Adam and Eve’s perspective, their view, their attitude, and their relation to God. Their choice was a matter of moral disobedience or rebellion against God. The expression “to know good and evil” in the Bible refers to moral maturity, when a person becomes an adult

and autonomous, or a moral judge (see *Deut. 1:39, 2 Sam 14:17, [sic] 1 Kings 3:9, Isa. 7:16, Heb. 5:14*). The issue around the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was who was the judge, and who was the source and standard of morality. By forbidding the eating of the fruit of the tree, God established Himself as the ultimate Source of morality on earth in the same way that He was in the universe. By eating from the tree, Eve and Adam decided that they were the source of morality. It is one thing for someone to exercise morality and distinguish between good and evil through the prism of God's revelation (*Deut. 30:14–16, 2 Sam. 14:17, 1 Kings 3:9, Heb. 5:14*). But it is another thing to set oneself as the source and standard of morality over against God's revelation and command; to do so is tantamount to declaring oneself God, to rebel against God, and to want to overthrow His throne.—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 159.†§

40. In our daily lives, are we willing to let God rule? Or, will we choose to set ourselves up as the moral standard?
41. God's will for our lives is always best. But, this is a very hard lesson for selfish human beings to accept and follow. However, God "cannot" admit to heaven those who are going to choose to do it their own way as Satan did. Otherwise, sin would enter the universe again.
42. Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 talk about the terrible rebellion of Satan in heaven.

Isaiah 14:9-10,16: ⁹ "The world of the dead is getting ready to welcome the king of Babylon. The ghosts of those who were powerful on earth are stirring about. The ghosts of kings are rising from their thrones. ¹⁰They all call out to him, 'Now you are as weak as we are! You are one of us!...

¹⁶ "The dead will stare and gape at you. They will ask, 'Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble?'"—*Good News Bible.**

Ezekiel 28:2,9,16-17: ² "Mortal man," he said, "tell the ruler of Tyre what I, the Sovereign LORD, am saying to him: puffed up with pride, you claim to be a god. You say that like a god you sit on a throne, surrounded by the seas. You may pretend to be a god, but, no, you are mortal, not divine....

⁹ "When they come to kill you, will you still claim that you are a god? When you face your murderers, you will be mortal and not at all divine....

¹⁶ "You were busy buying and selling, and this led you to violence and sin. So I forced you to leave my holy mountain, and the angel who guarded you drove you away from the sparkling gems. ¹⁷You were proud of being handsome, and your fame made you act like a fool. Because of this I hurled you to the ground and left you as a warning to other kings."—*Good News Bible.**

43. God explained, beginning with Genesis 2:17 and later in Romans 6:23, that rebellion against God otherwise called *sin* pays its wage; that wage of sin is death. But, this death is not the ordinary death which is so familiar to us in our day. The final result of sin is what the Bible speaks of as a **second death, the death which results as a direct rebellion**

against God, leading to a separation from Him. It results from choosing to live a life contrary to God's plan. (1 John 3:4; Isaiah 14:9-10,16; Ezekiel 28:2,9,16,17)

44. We do not know exactly how God described death either to the angels or to Adam and Eve before they committed that sin. However, surely, it must have been described in terms that seemed very serious and must have been adequate to allow them to make an educated decision.

45. Is there a solution to that death? Yes! The Bible describes two types of death.

[BSG:] **First, Jesus Christ died in our place and for us; He took our death upon Himself and gave us the hope of eternal life** (*John 3:16, Rom. 3:25, Rom. 5:8, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Pet. 1:18–20*). **Second**, our own death is indicated, as well. But this death is not punishment for sin; Jesus died that death in our place. **Rather, our death is to sin itself.**—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 160.†‡§

46. We must die to sin; it must no longer control us in any way.

[BSG:] By “death to sin” the Bible means exactly what it says. It does not say that we attain to eternal life by literally dying. We are not—and cannot be—paying for our sins with our own deaths. There is no salvific merit in our deaths. The only literal death that counts for our salvation is the death of Jesus Christ on the cross. Neither does the Bible use “death to sin” to communicate an indifference to the world, as in Buddhism, for instance. God created the world perfect for our enjoyment and for us to care for it (*Gen. 1:26–28, Gen. 2:15*). Death to sin, then, means accepting the Lordship of God and the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and rejecting the control of sin (*Rom. 8:1–11*). We enjoy obeying God and serving Him. We are transformed into the image and mind of Christ, who did not consider holding on to power, but stooped down to earth and took our status and our place to save us (*Phil. 2:2–8*).—*Adult Teachers Sabbath School Bible Study Guide** 160-161.†§

47. While the existence of sin has caused a lot of crucibles, nothing compares to the crucibles that Christ went through. So, what crucibles are affecting our lives today? Are we moving closer to the final events of this world's history? What kind of crucibles will be involved during the time of trouble? Will carefully following the example of Jesus help us to survive through those days?

48. The name *Samuel* means “God heard.” Is that an example that describes our lives? Do we hear and follow the advice that God has given us? What would happen if we did?

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