



HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF A SERMON



BE PROACTIVE, NOT PASSIVE

-This handout goes along with the sermon (also published as a podcast) on March 12, 2023. It can be accessed here:

<https://matthewruttan.com/2023/03/13/how-to-get-the-most-out-of-a-sermon/>

“So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard... And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law... They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading” (Nehemiah 8:2, 3, 8).

Important Mindsets:

- *Know what preaching is*
- *Be confident (or get confident) in the trustworthiness and authority of the Bible*
- *Cultivate humility*
- *Guard against Satan’s plan to make you apathetic to (or absent from) sermons*

Practical things to do:

- *Pray for the preacher to faithfully understand, explain and apply God’s word*
- *Pray for your personal illumination (ahead of time)*
- *Expect God to communicate to you*
- *Be attentive (Bring your Bible; use the sermon notes; when your mind wanders, bring it back)*
- *Reflect on it afterwards*
- *Follow through on the applications*
- *Keep track of key insights*
- *If you miss a sermon, listen to it later*

“Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear” –Jesus (Mark 4:9)