

Volume 3, Day 22: Listen to the Right Things

Let's learn to **listen to the right things**. Often religion taught us to listen to the wrong things. We focused on whether we had the right doctrine. And though that's not unimportant, you can have the right doctrine and still not know how to live this life or how to listen to God. We learned about getting other people's approval and attending the right church or going to the right meetings or being under the right leadership or having the right look or pretending to be someone. We were acting better. Somehow we thought that all those things were going to be helpful to this journey. I found that they really aren't.

Let me tell you about eight things that I think are very helpful for people to tune out the signals that are the noise, the static and the distraction, and tune in more of that signal, which includes more of God's heart in the way we live. Let's look at the first one.

Be focused less on appearances. That's both material **appearances**, whether I've got the right clothes and the right look. It's also **pretending** to be better than I am not focusing on what's real in my life. I hear people all the time say, well, if I do that, what are other people going to think? If you're worried about what other people are going to think, you're not going to do well on this journey because you're going to try to meet everybody else's expectation around you. So, learn to focus on what God wants me to be part of right now. What might be on God's heart? Follow that, even if other people, maybe even people very close to you or other people you love don't understand. **Just be the best follower** you can be. And be following God's plans and purposes, just like Jesus did.