

**Listening to God**

Jesus replied, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!' Luke 11: 28

<sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening"'. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening'. 1 Samuel 3: 9–10

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens — wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. Isaiah 50: 4–5

<sup>10</sup>He said to me: Mortal, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart and hear with your ears; <sup>11</sup>then go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them. Say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD'; whether they hear or refuse to hear. Ezekiel 3: 10–11

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. Jeremiah 33: 3

Jesus said: <sup>1</sup>Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice'. John 10: 1–4

<sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. John 10: 14–16

So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. Romans 10: 17

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act — they will be blessed in their doing. James 1: 22–25

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. Revelation 3: 20

**Listening to One Another**

A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. Proverbs 18: 2 [ESV]

If one gives answer before hearing, it is folly and shame. Proverbs 18: 13

When you talk, do not say harmful things, but say what people need — words that will help others become stronger. Then what you say will do good to those who listen to you. Ephesians 4: 29 [NCV]

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. James 1: 19–20

**Journeying**

The road the righteous travel is like the sunrise, getting brighter and brighter until daylight has come. Proverbs 4: 18 [GNT]

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup>Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3: 5–6 [NLT]

And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it'. Isaiah 30: 21

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6: 8

**Steps of Faith**

<sup>23</sup>Our steps are made firm by the LORD, when he delights in our [Hebrew of the consonantal Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Bible *his*] way; <sup>24</sup>though we stumble, we [Hebrew of the consonantal Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Bible *he*] shall not fall headlong, for the LORD holds us by the hand. Psalm 37: 23–24

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, <sup>9</sup>who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. Psalm 66: 8–9

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. Isaiah 43: 2

We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2: 10 [ESV]

**Quotes from Mary Sumner & other Mothers' Union Members:**

Her foresight, her wisdom and judgment laid the great foundation stone for us. And as the building grows, and far and wide her early message goes forth – the same message, though to a different generation – we pray that the faith which shone through her every word and thought may illumine ours, that we, with grateful hearts, may build well and truly, as she did. Mrs Boustead, Central President of Mothers' Union: December 1927



Mrs Sumner's pen was as busy as ever, as the packets of answers to her letters show; some from the Members of Parliament to whom she wrote personally; some from the highest leaders of Church and State. From Mary Sumner, her life and work: Mrs Horace Porter [1928]



Prayer and dogged work will win the day!  
Mary Sumner: referring to her campaign to raise the standards of Christian teaching in all schools; and also in the home.



I and a certain number of earnest friends are praying daily for our present government ..... I want to live in prayer for them. Mary Sumner



Remember, Ladies, to be yourselves what you would have your children be. Mary Sumner



Together, by the Grace of God ..... we can calm each other when we are afraid; strengthen one another when we are weak; and work together to raise our children to the glory of God. Unity is strength. Mary Sumner



Our Society is a company of mothers, and good women possessed with motherly hearts, women of all classes, high and humble, rich and poor, learned and unlearned, great ladies of the land and poor mothers in small homes. We have bound ourselves together to love and help one another. Mary Sumner