

They Read About Him But Did Not Know Him

I. Introduction:

A. This lesson can be applied in two ways...

1. First to ourselves (**Romans 2:21-23** and **I Corinthians 9:27**); just because we read/study/hear teaching doesn't mean we're learning (ex. **Matthew 16:1-12**).
2. Towards those we might try to teach; even when a person willingly listens to sound teaching that doesn't mean he/she/they are learning (**Ezekiel 33:30-33**).

B. It may be hard to accept this, but it is a FACT that some people CAN'T learn the truth (**Jeremiah 6:10**, **John 8:31-47**, and **Romans 8:5-8**).

II. Body: Consider Those Who Were Taught And Did Not Learn (**Acts 13:26-51**).

A. They read every Sabbath (**Acts 13:27**; cf. **Luke 4:16** and **Acts 13:14-15**; **15:21**)

1. Yet, they also had a foundation of "selective hearing" (**Isaiah 30:9-11**).
2. The wrong mindset can prevent learning (**I Corinthians 3:1-3**).
3. The type of person you are can prevent learning (**Proverbs 14:6**).
4. The Jews still had their hearts covered (**II Corinthians 3:12-16**).

B. The Jews were stuck in parts of the Law of Moses (**John 5:1-47**).

1. They had not grown to learn the Law had them looking toward Jesus all along (**Luke 24:27** and **Acts 3:19-26**).
2. Our level of growth can prevent learning (**Hebrews 5:1-14**).

C. You can spend much time learning and still never "get it" (**II Timothy 3:7**)

1. Real learning includes application (**Deuteronomy 5:1** and **James 1:21-27**).
2. Faith is not enough, by itself (**James 2:14-26**).
3. Doing what you're taught means much more than just being taught (**Matthew 7:21-27**).

D. Applying the end result... Shaking of the dust... (**Matthew 10:14**).

1. If we get "selective hearing" or become spiritually stuck and not able to learn, the Lord will give up on you (**Matthew 15:1-14** and **Romans 1:28**).
2. If we get "selective hearing" or become spiritually stuck and not able to learn, faithful brethren will give up on us too (**I Timothy 6:3-5**).

III. Conclusion: We need to listen AND understand (**Mark 7:14**).