

When the Adults weren't Listening...

1 Samuel 3:1-4:1a

Communication Failures

_____ do people communicate?

_____ do people communicate?

Why does the message sometimes not have the desired _____?

Is God's message to us having its desired _____ in us?

Setting for 1 Samuel 3

The people of Israel entered the Promised Land

12 "Judges" led the people in a downward _____ ~300 years

Eli the head priest over the tabernacle (God's _____)

Eli had sons who became _____ priests

A prophet declared God's _____ against Eli's household

"Those who honor me I will honor,
but those who _____ me will be disdained." 1 Samuel 2:30

Samuel was a _____ son

From his _____, he lived in service in the temple under Eli

1 Samuel 3:1-4:1a

We go from "The word of the LORD was _____"

to "all Israel...recognized that Samuel was attested as a _____ of the LORD."

God's communication sometimes seems very _____

It can seem like just a _____ voice!

God wanted Samuel to learn to _____ to Him

Eli taught Samuel something Eli didn't _____

Samuel had to have _____ to speak a message of judgment against Eli!



The Big Idea:

God speaks

_____ His people and _____ His people

who will _____

and _____ His word

Take to heart = Adjust attitudes, words and actions based on the _____ of God's word

John 10:3-5

"Whoever has ears, let them _____."

Application:

Listen

What it means to _____ God

God speaks in many ways:

the Bible, songs, books, speakers, other people (young & old), an impression, conviction, a thought that comes to mind, dreams, visions, ...

The clearest and the final authority: the _____

The Bible is communication from God, rather than a textbook or rulebook. So listen _____

We hear better with practice and together → _____

_____ listen: God speaks to each of His children

Have a hearts that _____ to hear

Listen for the voice of God in _____ parts of life

Be eager to be _____ by God (and through others)

_____ other things

Confess & _____

Remove _____

_____ time

Meditate, memorize, pray, _____

Most of the things we “_____” we never really _____

Take God’s word to _____: Obey & Speak

Obey

If we _____ what we already know or have heard,

Don’t expect to _____ more

Even what we have heard already may be _____

Parable of the Four Soils *Mark 4*

Seeds left sitting on the path get _____

For seeds to be _____: “hear, accept, produce a crop”

Speak

Proclaim the _____ of God and _____

God uses and can speak through _____ of his people

(Priesthood of all believers)

_____ and men

_____ and older

_____ and richer

_____ and healthier

Citizen of a _____ country

_____ Christians and long time Christians

When the _____ weren’t listening, God called a _____ to speak

Jesus said...

my sheep **listen to my** _____

I call my sheep by _____ and lead them

My sheep **know my** _____

My sheep will never _____ a stranger because **they do not recognize a stranger’s voice**

“Whoever has ears, let them _____.”

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening and ready to _____.”

Reflection Questions

- What questions do you have about “hearing God’s voice”?
- What has been your experience of “hearing God’s voice”?
- What helps you hear God?
- What helps you “take to heart” God’s messages to you?