

Speak, For Your Servant
Hears

1 Samuel 3:8-10

1 Samuel 3:8-10

- ⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So, he arose and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you did call me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, ‘Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.’ ” So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel answered, “Speak, for Your servant hears.”

Give God Freedom to Speak

- When was the last time we let God speak to us about what was on His heart, rather than what we had on our minds?
- We should have no agenda but God. We must allow the Holy Spirit to freely move and freely speak.
- It is when we get to this point, that our hearts are ready for God to change us and where He has actual freedom to direct us

We Must Be Ready to Hear & Obey

- Samuel and Isaiah were called because of their willingness to follow God and His Word.
- Samuel and Isaiah said “yes” before fully understanding their call from God.

We Must Be Ready to Hear & Obey

- Two of the main things that hinder our hearing the Holy Spirit is our unwillingness to allow Him the freedom to speak and the willingness to follow exactly what He speaks.
- How many times do we go back to “confirm” what the Holy Spirit said simply because we do not like what the Holy Spirit said.
- Following God should be the motivation for wanting to hear from God. – Isaiah 6 & Luke 4

You Must First Obey in Order to Hear

- Obedience is the first step in hearing from God – One of the dangers for Christians is that we get so focused on finding out or doing our personal assignments, we cease to follow God's already available and universal assignments

You Must First Obey in Order to Hear

- Bonhoeffer in *The Cost of Discipleship* refers to this as “the place where many can no longer hear God because they are no longer obeying God, even if it seems like a small thing.”
- You and I must accept and do the basics before we will ever be called to do the advanced work

You Must First Obey in Order to Hear

- “Faith without works is not faith at all, but a simple lack of obedience to God” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- Faith says “I believe in the saving work of Jesus Christ (The Gospel Message); Works say, “Here is how you know I believe in Jesus, I keep His commandments and walk in His ways and bear much fruit to the glory of God the Father”.

Remove All Other Voices

- There is something that feeds into our ability to hear from God and there are numerous things that will drown out God's voice
- Isaiah 30:1 - "Woe to the rebellious children," says the Lord, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, and who devise plans, but not of My Spirit, that they may add sin to sin;

Remove All Other Voices

- Isaiah 30:20-22 - ²⁰ Though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of oppression, yet your Teacher will no longer hide Himself, but your eyes will [constantly] see your Teacher. ²¹ Your ears will hear a word behind you, “This is the way, walk in it,” whenever you turn to the right or to the left. ²² And you will defile your carved images overlaid with silver, and your cast images plated with gold. You will scatter them like a bloodstained *cloth*, and will say to them, “Be gone!” (AMP)

Remove All Other Voices

- John 16:13-15 - ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. ¹⁴ He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'

Remove All Other Voices

- 2 Timothy 3:16 - ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God's will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage]; (AMP) (2 Peter 1:20-21)

Remove All Other Voices

- The Holy Spirit's voice is the same voice that wrote the Bible. His voice sounds the same. – Maybe we do not know the voice of the Holy Spirit because we never read the words His voice has already given us.

Keep Your Ears Open & Your Heart Pliable

- The heart must always be prepared before the ears can truly hear.
- Acts 16, Paul is stopped from going into various regions by the Holy Spirit. Paul's heart was always in tune with the will of the Spirit
- Psalm 43:3 - Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live