

SAMUEL-Listen & Obey 1 Samuel 3 *Living into God's Story* 11-20-16

What do you listen to?

Dangerous exposure & influence:

Darkest days of Judges. Do what they want to do! Eli's sons

What do you listen **for**? **Whom** do you listen **for**?

1. OPEN TO LISTEN FOR GOD

*** When Hearing is Hard**

- ~ New experience or superficial interest
- ~ We'll have to change & don't want to.
- ~ No real interest b/c we listen to so much else.
- ~ Don't recognize God wants to speak & so don't listen for him

Reality check: Not tuning in ... not listening for God!

*** Anticipate God Will Speak!**

- ~ God wants to speak to us in relationship ... believe it!
- ~ Expect: *"Speak Lord, your servant is listening!"*
- ~ God will speak less & less to us if we're not listening!

2. CHANGED BY GOD'S WORD

*** Take God's Word Seriously!**

- ~ Eli heard God b/f but was not seriously listening! **2:27-29**
- ~ How can we take God more seriously w/ his Word? **Ps.63:1, 8**

*** Word Creates Change ... In us ...in church ...in world**

- ~ Begins something new! **v.10** David & Jesus
- ~ Nurture mentoring culture: Ask Spirit to use Word to change us!
- ~ Pray for a renewed commitment to love & listen for God. **v.20-21**

See page 2 for more story & reflections on Samuel

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Read & reflect together on the Word as a family throughout the week.

1 Samuel 1 Samuel's Birth

1. What does Hannah intend for her new son by her vow?
2. When was a time God brought through disappointment to your heart's desire?

1 Samuel 7 Samuel the Judge

1. Why do the Philistines attack during Israel's assembly?
2. What is God saying by using thunder against Baal the storm god?
3. Why does Samuel set up the stone? v.12
4. What spiritual promises have you recently made?

1 Samuel 8 Samuel & the Request for a King

1. Why does Israel ask for king? What was going badly?
2. What warning does god/Samuel give about having a king?
3. When do you want things like everyone else? How do you keep from making bad choices? When have you disregarded God's will?

1 Samuel 9:15 - 10:13 Samuel Anoints Saul

1. What do you think Samuel saw in Saul's heart & in his future? v.19-20
2. When Samuel honors Saul, does he know his intentions? Why/why not?
3. What does the oil anointing Saul signify for him as king? 10:1, 5-9
4. How might God be changing your heart as you follow Jesus?

1 Samuel 12 Samuel Calls Israel Back To God

1. In his farewell speech, what does Samuel tell the people to remember?
2. What is God trying to show his people by the thunderstorm at harvest?
3. To demand a king is evil; what does Samuel warn people to do? Not do?