

The Lord of Sea and Sky (week 3)

Title: Heart of Worship

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Discussion Questions

1. We are in a sermon series entitled, "Heart of Worship." Each week in this series we will choose a worship song to focus on. These songs have been special to us, they have spoken words of truth, healing, peace, and love during some of life's hard times, they have helped us say "yes" to God's call or have given encouragement to prioritize Jesus above all else. If you were to select a song like this, what song would you choose? Take some time to listen to your song, what is God speaking to you?
2. Today's song is "*I The Lord of Sea and Sky*." It's a hymn and depending on what church traditions you are familiar with you may have sung it a lot or not at all. In the United Kingdom this song was recently voted as the number three most popular hymn, but it has never reached that level of popularity in the United States. Look it up and listen to it, what stands out to you as you listen to this song?
3. This song was written by an American composer Dan Schutte in 1979. He was charged with writing a new song to go alongside a seminary graduation service; the only direction he was given was that it should include references to Communion. "*I the Lord of Sea and Sky*" was what he wrote, a beautiful song about God's calling based on words found in Isaiah 6:8 and 1 Samuel 3:4. Have you ever felt God was calling you to something? How did you know? What was your response?
4. One of the reasons this song is special to me (Pastor Jon) is that it was sung at my own seminary graduation service. It was a powerful moment to hear all of my fellow seminarians, these new pastors, sing out, "*here I am Lord, send me.*" Do you have any moments that remind you of certain worship songs? How do those memories make the song more precious to you?