

SUNDAY MORNING MESSAGE 101214

SERIES: GREATER THINGS – WEEK 2 "LISTEN"

1 Samuel 3:1-11 (ESV)

1 Now the young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man.

1. Surrender amplifies the voice of God

2. Hearing clearly requires undivided attention

1 Samuel 3:9-10

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

A) Be still

Psalm 46:10 (ESV)

"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

B) Tune in to God's word

Psalm 119:15 (ESV)

I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

C) Confirm with godly counsel

Proverbs 11:14 (ESV)

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

3. God's wisdom is greater than human reasoning

1 Samuel 3:19 (ESV)

And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.

Contentment without great gain is possible

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (ESV)

Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Real life isn't found in possessions

Luke 12:15 (ESV)

And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Honor God first with your wealth

Proverbs 3:9-10 (ESV)

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; 10 then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Trust in God more than in your riches

Proverbs 11:28 (ESV)

Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Sacrificial living pleases God

Hebrews 13:16 (ESV)

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Generosity is rewarded

Proverbs 19:17 (ESV)

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

Generosity leads to renewal

Proverbs 11:25 (NLT)

The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

In hearing those truths, what might God be prompting you to do with what is on your table?

1. Keep and enjoy these things?

2. Go without these things for a period of time?

3. Long term change(s) I will make to free up finances?

4. Not sure about these things?