

Discussion Guide -- “Ready To Listen”
Week of June 3, 2018

Read 1 Samuel chapter 3

- At the time Samuel was a young boy, messages from God were very rare (1 Sam. 3:1). We don't know if this is because God did not send messages or if there was no one who was ready to listen. Have you ever experienced a time in your life when God was “silent?” What were the circumstances? How did you respond to God's silence?
- God broke the silence and spoke to Samuel (3:4). We don't know if God used an audible voice or if he spoke to Samuel's heart. Most people experience God's guidance in through “common” means: while reading the Bible, through the advice of a friend, or perhaps as a gentle urging in their hearts. Has God spoken to you recently? What did He say? How did you interpret His message?
- Even though he was not following God as he should, Eli was able to help Samuel understand how to be ready to listen so he could respond to God (3:9). Who has helped you understand how to listen and respond to God? What was their advice? What difference has it made in your life?
- Pastor Dan summarized Eli's advice by saying that Samuel should be quiet, be ready to listen, and be willing to do whatever God wanted. Which needs the most work in your life: being quiet, being ready to listen, or being willing to obey?
- Ask God to help you in your areas of spiritual weakness so that you will be ready and willing to hear God's voice in your life!