

# Home Group Questions

the week of 02/24/2019

1 Samuel 3:1-21

## SAMUEL – HEARING GOD

### GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on the “Ordinary Superheroes of the O.T.”. This week focused on the account of Samuel’s encounter with God, as God speaks to young Samuel, and gives Samuel a message for the high priest, Eli. The bigger issue is how God communicates with us...and the example of Samuel being faithful with the Word of God that he is given.

### LOOKING IN THE WORD...

**1. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-21.** Talk about this experience that Samuel has. Knowing Samuel is a young boy makes it understandable why he would not recognize the voice of the Lord and think, instead, that it is the voice of the high priest Eli. Regardless, Samuel has the amazing experience of hearing the audible voice of the Lord. Reading stories like this, one can understand why believers often wish they heard the audible voice of God. Do you have questions or concerns when you hear someone say that “God told me...”, or “the Lord said to me...”? It’s a pretty common occurrence in the church, but what are some of the misconceptions that can develop in the minds of new believers or young believers who are growing up in their faith, when they hear someone say that? What might be a better way to communicate a sense that God is leading you, if a person has not heard the audible voice of God?

**2. Pastor Mel shared these principles about how we are to discern the ways in which God speaks to us. Read this list and read the verse associated with each item.**

### Does God speak today? - Absolutely!

- **Through His Word.** Hebrews 1:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:16
- **Through “circumstances”.** 2 Cor. 12:2; Acts 16:6
- **Through trials.** 1 Peter 1:6-7
- **Through the conviction of the Holy Spirit.** John 16:8
- **Through a “still small voice”.** 1 Kings 19:11-13
- **Audibly – “exception rather than the rule”.**

### If the voice you hear is audible...

- **Remember, deception can come audibly.** Gal. 1:8
- **Always check what is said against the Word of God.**
- **Confide with a spiritually mature person about what you heard.**

### Why don’t we hear God more?

- **We have God’s Word, beyond that it is God’s decision(sovereignty).**
- **Because we aren’t taking time to listen.** Isaiah 40:28-31
- **We neglect spending time seeking God’s heart.**
- **Prayer and meditation are often neglected.**

**3. Read 1 Samuel 3:19-21.** Samuel rises in prominence in Israel due to his faithfulness in communicating God’s truth to the nation of Israel. How can we more faithfully communicate God’s truth to people around us without sounding “preachy”...or sounding “holier than thou”. Verse 19 states that Samuel did not “let one of God’s words fall to the ground”....what does that mean? What does that say about Samuel’s attitude toward the Word of God?

### Moving Forward...

Pray that you will have a heart that waits for the Lord, meditates on His Word, and faithfully does not allow any of God’s words or commands to “fall to the ground”.