

Discussion Guide

Discussion Guides accompany the [weekly message](#).

Opening Activity:

What's the most random or surprising place you've ever received wise advice—or clarity about something in life? (examples: during a workout, on a long drive, from a stranger, in the shower, from a kid, etc.)

Read:

1 Samuel 3:1-21

Proverbs 11:14

1 Kings 19:11-12

2 Timothy 3:16

Discussion Questions:

1. Samuel likely slept inside the tabernacle, near the ark—meaning he literally rested where God's presence dwelled (1 Samuel 3:1-10). What makes it difficult to slow down and truly listen for God?
2. Eli wasn't perfect, but God still used him to help Samuel discern His voice—spiritual mentors don't need to be flawless to be valuable (1 Samuel 3:5-9). Who is a trusted, godly voice in your life right now?
3. Samuel's first "word from God" was a message of judgment—not comfort—teaching us God guides us toward holiness, not just happiness (1 Samuel 3:11-14). Why do you think God sometimes gives hard truths instead of comforting words?
4. Samuel risked upsetting his spiritual mentor by telling the truth—obedience often comes with discomfort (1 Samuel 3:15-18). When God speaks, how do we courageously respond?
5. Early Jewish children often memorized large sections of Scripture—they trained their ears to know God's voice by knowing His Word (2 Timothy 3:16). How can Scripture help you recognize God's voice more clearly?
6. When have you felt like God nudged you toward something, even if it was uncomfortable?
7. Who is someone you trust as spiritual counsel—and how could you invite more wisdom into your life this season?
8. Which part of the GPS acronym (Gather, Pray, Scripture) do you need to strengthen most?
9. When do you find it easiest—or hardest—to be still before God?

Challenge for the Week:

Find one intentional quiet moment each day this week to pray, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening," then sit in silence for two minutes.