

Sermon-Based Discussion Questions

February 17th, 2019

“What if being QUIET is when God actually speaks the loudest?”

Last Week: We have a God-given need for QUIET, stillness, and solitude...and a Lack of QUIET is damaging our souls.

Ice Breaker Questions:

What victories can you share about how have you taken steps to quiet your world this week? What is your plant next week?

Mark referenced some studies showing the benefits of quiet physically, mentally, and emotionally. Which one of these would benefit you most if you were to quiet yourself? Why?

READ: Samuel 3:1-9

Have you ever sensed God speaking to you? Explain. (audibly? Inner voice? Prompting in your gut? Through Scripture? Through another person?)

Discuss the fact that God called and used Samuel who was inexperienced, young, and lacked the “pedigree” to be the next prophet and leader for God?

Mark mentioned that Samuel response to God was “**Here, I am.**”

Why do you think this statement is significant?

If you heard God call right now, what would **your honest** 3-word response be? Explain

“Quiet has to do with both the condition of your surroundings and the condition of your heart”

What do you feel prevents you from hearing and connecting to God most?

What might you do to quiet your surroundings this week? your heart this week?

Putting It into Practice:

Mark talked about the importance of being intentional about being and bringing quiet to our lives and our hearts. He gave 3 action steps laid out in Samuel 3:

Go lie down – solitude, silence, slow your body, mind, and soul.

if God speaks – be expectant but not demanding, practice the discipline of silence & listening

Speak your servant is listening – posture of a servant is willing and open to trust the Master and respond to the Master’s call

Which these 3 most challenging for you? Why?

Which of the following statements do you most relate to? Be honest and discuss.

“Speak, Lord for your servant is listening.”

“Listen, Lord for your servant is speaking.”

“Speak, Lord and your servant will consider.”

“Moments of quiet allow us to train and position ourselves to hear from God not just in the quiet moments but in other moments as well. “

Mark mentioned a couple reasons why we might not hear from God

- 1) Noise and competing voices
- 2) Don't really want to hear and respond

What practical steps could you take to move more toward having the posture of “*Speak, Lord for your servant is listening.*”?

1 Samuel 3:19-20

¹⁹ The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord.

Mark challenged us to fill in the blank. “The Lord is with my name”

How different would your life be physically, emotionally, mentally, spiritually if you knew this to be true but also experienced it personally?

How might getting quiet this week renew and transform your heart, soul, and mind?

CLOSING PRAYER: Have people share prayer requests for this week and spend some time praying for each other.

Challenge everyone to pray for each other to take a specific step into quiet this week.