

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

WHEN GOD IS NO LONGER SILENT

1 SAMUEL 3:1-21

FEBRUARY 12TH, 2023

- I. The Silence of the Lord: vs. 1-3
- II. The Messenger of the Lord: vs. 4-10
- III. The Word of the Lord: vs. 11-21
- IV. Application
 - a. God's Word is the primary mouthpiece of God therefore flood your life with It
 - b. Distractions drown out God's Word therefore remove them
 - c. God has spoken most clearly in and through Jesus Christ therefore worship Him

Questions:

1. Why do we, at times, just want God to speak audibly to us?
2. What is the normative means of God's communication to His people (see Hebrews 1:1-3)? Is it difficult to reconcile all the examples in the Bible of God speaking audibly to His people and now that is no longer the case? Why or why not?
3. Why would the silence of God be a demonstration of God's judgement toward His people?
 - Psalm 74
 - Proverbs 29:18
 - Amos 8:11-12
4. In chapters 2 and 3 there's been a lot of symbolism. One has been the theme of "hearing". Review the following passages and discuss the need for God's people to be a listening people and what that looks like practically:
 - 2:22-23
 - 2:25
 - 3:10
 - 3:11
5. If God primarily speaks through His Word to His people, then what would it look like to "flood" your life with His Word more?
6. Distractions from listening to God in His Word abound, especially among God's people (and those in leadership) throughout 1 Samuel 1-3. What is your biggest distraction and what would it look like to remove it and for the small group to help hold you accountable?

7. Jesus is the greatest prophet (see Hebrews 1:1-3a; Acts 3:15-18). God has spoken most clearly in and through Him. What would this look like practically then to “hear” from God through Jesus? How can we do this?