

## SERMON-BASED STUDY: SPEAKING GOD'S TRUTH TO A TROUBLED WORLD

**1 Samuel 3:11-21, ESV** – <sup>11</sup> Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. <sup>12</sup> On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup> And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup> Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

<sup>15</sup> Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup> But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>17</sup> And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” <sup>18</sup> So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”

<sup>19</sup> And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup> And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

### Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

### ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 Based on last week’s message and study, how did Samuel position and posture himself to listen to God’s voice?

2 How did Samuel speak the truth to Eli? Why is the delivery of the message just as important as the message itself?

3 What happened to Samuel after he delivered the message to Eli? Why did God trust Samuel with more? How did this help to grow Samuel's faith over time?

## DIGGING DEEPER

A **Hebrews 1:1-2, ESV** – *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*

**1 John 1:1-4, ESV** – *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*

**John 14:26, ESV** – <sup>26</sup> *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

4 Looking at the passage above, how does God speak to us today?

5 Looking at 1 John 1:1-4, what does the title “word of life” tell us about the Christ? What did John do with the knowledge he had?

6 How should we behave and respond knowing and understanding how God communicates to us today?

**B** **Hebrews 10:26-31, ESV** – <sup>26</sup> For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>29</sup> How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? <sup>30</sup> For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” <sup>31</sup> It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

**Mark 1:14-15, ESV** – <sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

**7** Looking at Hebrews 10:26-31, what is the basic warning given by the author?

**8** What does “repent” mean? From what is Jesus commanding people to repent?

**9** Is it biblically correct to tell people, “God loves you” without telling them “The Lord will judge his people” because of their sin? Why or why not?

## TAKING IT HOME

God calls us to listen to Him to gain knowledge and understanding of the truth. But this truth is not just for ourselves. We are also called to speak the truth to others in love. How are you doing with this two-step process? How are you doing with listening to God and then speaking the truth to others? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is speaking to you today. Pray for one another as you become better at listening and speaking the truth.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

John 12:48

Romans 1:18-32, 10:17

2 Timothy 3:16

James 4:4