

SERMON NOTES

June 29 & 30, 2024

Would You Rather?: Barriers to Hearing from God

Core Reality: Message _____ is not always message_____.

1. _____

I Kings 19: 4- 9 | Lamentations 3:22b-23a

2. _____

Psalms 46:10 | Colossians 3:1-2 | 1 Samuel 3:1-9

3. _____

Genesis 12:1-3; 18:12-15

4. _____

Matthew 5:23-24

5. _____

Matthew 14:26-27

Life Steps

Would You Rather?: Barriers to Hearing from God | June 29 & 30, 2024

Monday

1 Kings 19:1-9 | Lamentations 3:22-24

Reflect: Exhaustion can drown out the voice of God. Elijah was fully transparent with God about his exhaustion. Assess your personal physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. Where are you rested, and where are you exhausted? Don't think. Don't process. Get still.

Prayer: Close your eyes. Slow down your breathing, and then like Jeremiah, the author of Lamentations, say to yourself over and over and over, "The Lord is my portion, therefore I will wait on him."

Tuesday

Psalms 46:10 a

Reflect: Memorize this verse and write it down in your journal at least 5 times. Set a two-minute timer on your phone and then do what the Psalmist instructs.

Prayer: God, you are my hope, my joy, my life. I trust and rest in you.

Wednesday

1 Samuel 3:1-10 | Colossians 3:1-2

Reflect: Worry can impede our hearing God speak. Like to Samuel, God is always speaking, but message-sent doesn't always mean message-received. Paul says in Colossians, "Instead of earthly worries, focus on what God is doing in your life." Where in your life is God working?

Prayer: Speak, Lord Jesus, for your servant is listening.

Thursday

Galatians 5:1

Reflect: What are the freedoms we enjoy in America that you most cherish? Why?

Prayer: Pray as you feel led for the well-being of our great nation and her leaders.

Friday

Genesis 18:13-15

Reflect: Impatience can thwart our hearing of God's voice. What hard thing are you currently facing? Active waiting is not passive, but it still requires trusting that God is going to come through at the "appointed time." What would it look and feel like for you to actively wait on God?

Prayer: Forgive me for laughing, doubting, and worrying. I will actively wait on you.

Saturday

Matthew 5:23-24

Reflect: Resentment, and mismanaged anger, will always impair our judgment and drown out the voice of God. Who are you holding something against? What is Jesus instructing you to do in this passage? When and how will you do it?

Prayer: Grace-filled God, help me to forgive and let go of my resentment.

Sunday

Matthew 14:26-27

Reflect: Fear can sabotage our hearing of God's voice. **Bad News:** we are all driven by some kind of fear. What are the fears that sometimes consume and hijack your thoughts?

Good News: The best place to find and hear from God is right in the middle of your fear. Jesus is saying to you right now, "Beat the scare." What would it look like for you to beat the scare?

Prayer: I trust you, God. Speak into my fear and give me the courage to trust you.