



Sermon Discussion Guide

Hearing God's Voice

Week 2: Solitude

Luke 4:1-2 & 13, Luke 5:15-16, Matthew 26:36-39 | August 9, 2020

Big Idea

Intentional times of solitude are key to hearing God's voice and being brought to more wholeness in Christ.

Opening Questions

1. Last week we looked at the condition of our ears to ensure we can hear from God. Did you notice yourself making any adjustment over this week in pursuit of more healthy spiritual ears? What were they?

General Sermon Thoughts/Questions

1. Silence and solitude is difficult for many people. Is that the case for you, or do you enjoy it? When you are in a time or season of it that feels uncomfortable or awkward, what worldly thing(s) do you tend to fill it with instead of leaning into the opportunity to be with the Lord?

Key Scripture Questions

1. Read **Luke 4:1-13**. The main point of this scene was that solitude brought Jesus strength. Where did Jesus' strength come from (v1)? Against whom did Jesus need this strength? As we think of Jesus as being fully man, what circumstances of weakness was he dealing with in this scene and/or what did Satan tempt Jesus with?
2. Continuing to reflect on Luke 4, the real point of this passage is that Jesus had strength in the face of temptation. By creating situations of solitude, you can connect with God to find strength. What practices could you engage to hear God's voice and find strength? Have you done this, and if so, what were some of the results?
3. Read **Luke 5:12-16**. Focusing on v15 how "popular" was Jesus and why? What are some things that the world would suggest one should do with such popularity; opportunity? Focusing on v16 what did Jesus do instead? Why was this important for him?
4. Read **Matthew 26:36-46**. The sermon presented how a time of solitude with his Father was what Jesus chose to do in preparation for the most challenging part of his ministry. In this reading how many times did Jesus go to find solitude? What are some thoughts you may have as to why he did so many times? What are the implications for us?
5. The whole point of this sermon was that to Hear God's Voice and find strength; be sustained; be prepared, we need times of solitude. What is a next step for you to intentionally plan for a longer time of solitude?

Application Questions

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and/or our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to now do?
3. Beyond prayer for each other is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?

Prayer Time

“Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Jesus’ model of solitude encouraging us to pursue the same. Please give us the strength to treat solitude as a priority in the face of a world that says “go, go, go!”. We desire your strength as we face temptations and challenges. Please sustain us as we go through seasons of busyness and chaos. We desire your proper preparation as we face what only you know what is ahead of us. We trust you to provide all we need. Thank You! We pray all of this in the name of Jesus. Amen!”