

Listening to God (1 Chronicles 14:8-17)

Prayer & Listening – Part 4
Life Church St. Louis – April 9, 2017
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

John 10:27 (NIV) My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Psalms 81:11-13 (NIV) “But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices. “If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways,

1. Ask for _____

1 Chronicles 14:9 (NIV) Now the Philistines had come and raided the Valley of Rephaim;

1A. Don't make _____ without God

1 Chronicles 14:10 (NIV) so David inquired of God: “Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hands?” The LORD answered him, “Go, I will deliver them into your hands.”

1B. Obey God's _____

1 Chronicles 14:11-12 (NIV) So David and his men went up to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, “As waters break out, God has broken out against my enemies by my hand.” So that place was called Baal Perazim. The Philistines had abandoned their gods there, and David gave orders to burn them in the fire.

2. Listen for God's _____

1 Chronicles 14:13 (NIV) Once more the Philistines raided the valley;

2A. Don't _____ you know God's will

1 Chronicles 14:14-15 (NIV) so David inquired of God again, and God answered him, “Do not go directly after them, but circle around them and attack them in front of the poplar trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the poplar trees, move out to battle, because that will mean God has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army.”

2B. God is _____ you as you obey

1 Chronicles 14:16-17 (NIV) So David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army, all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. So David's fame spread throughout every land, and the LORD made all the nations fear him.

3. Don't _____ God's instructions

1 Samuel 15:2-3a (NIV) This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt. Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them.

3A. Obedience must be _____

1 Samuel 15:13 (NIV) When Samuel reached him, Saul said, “The LORD bless you! I have carried out the LORD's instructions.”

1 Samuel 15:15 (NIV) Saul answered, “The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the LORD your God, but we totally destroyed the rest.”

1 Samuel 15:19 (NIV) Why did you not obey the LORD? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?”

3B. Disobedience leads to _____ guidance

1 Samuel 28:5-7a (NIV) When Saul saw the Philistine army, he was afraid; terror filled his heart. He inquired of the LORD, but the LORD did not answer him by dreams or Urim or prophets. Saul then said to his attendants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, so I may go and inquire of her.”

Action Plan for This Week

- Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading, prayer & writing.
 - Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

- How will I obey God's Word this week? _____
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Listening to God (1 Chronicles 14:8-17) Study Guide

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Intro. Why is it important for sheep to listen to their shepherd's voice and follow him (John 10:27)?

Why do people have trouble listening to God (Psalm 81:11-13)?

What are the benefits of listening to God (Psalm 81:14-16)?

If a person is not listening to God, what voices are they listening to?

1A. Why did David inquire of God regarding this military decision (1 Chronicles 14:9-10)?

1B. What did David mean when he said "as waters break out, God has broken out against my enemies" (1 Chronicles 14:11)?

1C. What does 1 Chronicles 14:12 tell us about the nature of the battle?

1D. Why should you ask God for direction concerning every decision in your life?

2A. When the exact same situation with the Philistines happened again, why did David inquire again of the Lord (1 Chronicles 14:13-14a)?

2B. Why did God give David detailed instructions this time regarding the attack (1 Chronicles 14:14-15)?

2C. What does the phrase "God has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army" mean (1 Chronicles 14:15)?

2D. What do you think would have happened in the battle if David had led a frontal assault as before (1 Chronicles 14:16-17)? Why?

2E. Why are God's plans always better than our own plans?

3A. What were the two parts of God's instructions to King Saul (1 Samuel 15:2-3)?

3B. Why did Saul disobey the second part of God's command (1 Samuel 15:13, 15)?

3C. What was the result of Saul's disobedience to God's instructions (1 Samuel 15:19, 22-23, 28:5-7)?

3D. Why is partial obedience to God's instructions regarded by God as disobedience?