



Stand Alone Message

Title: Here I Am | Teacher: Elisa Laird

Sermon Questions for 5.26.2024

Opener

What is your typical routine that you do to try to get the best night of sleep that you can?

Read

1 Samuel 3:1-18

Main Points

1. Eli was a judge in Israel, but he had stopped listening to God.
2. Samuel, hearing a voice, got up from his sleep and went to see what Eli wanted, thinking it was Eli who was calling him. He doesn't grumble or delay, he goes to Eli. But it wasn't Eli who was calling him, it was God.
3. Samuel shows us the heart of a follower, who responds to God's call.
4. Eli's service, even though was flawed, it wasn't without fruit - showing us that we're never too old, or "too far gone," to be used by God for his purposes.
5. Eli understands what God is telling Samuel, and encourages Samuel to be the prophet God has called him to be.
6. Samuel and Eli needed each other as Samuel's "here I am" moment is Eli's too!
 - a. Samuel doesn't have a relationship with God yet. Eli introduces Samuel to God's voice. Samuel is avoiding telling Eli what God said, so Eli goes and finds Samuel.
 - b. Samuel is afraid to share God's message with Eli. Eli challenges Samuel to be the prophet God has called him to be.
 - c. Eli knows he failed his sons. Samuel is Eli's chance to do things differently. Eli knows his family's leadership will end. He empowers Samuel to lead Israel back.

Engage with God in a Group

- How do you think you would respond if you heard a voice calling you in the middle of the night as you were sleeping?
- What experiences have you had in your faith that feel extraordinary?
- Where might God be inviting you to respond with, "Here I am, Lord"?
- Who is in your life that helps you navigate your faith?
- How might God want to use you to encourage someone in your life in their faith and how God is at work in their life?

Bottom Line

There's a place for you in God's big story, and he longs for you to step into it so that you might hear his voice clearer, know him better, and be a part of his work in the world.