

Receiving Message from God through Parent

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What We Will Learn

- What a child needs
- To receive God's messages
- Through parent
- Based on examples
 - Samuel's interactions with Eli
 - Joseph in Call to Egypt mission
 - David in Call to battle against Goliath

Message Categories

- Clear message to child through parent
 - Parent knows message is from God
 - To be implemented by Child
 - With parental guidance
 - Example: Call of Samuel
 - 1 Samuel 3 [Not read in session]

Message Categories cont'd

- Direct instruction to parent for child
- To be implemented by parent
 - Directly for the child
 - By guiding the child
- Examples
 - Abraham on covenant of circumcision
 - Rebekah on Jacob-Esau relationship
 - Joseph on flight to Egypt and back

Message Categories cont'd

- Normal parent-child interaction
 - Instruction, advice, request
 - Other parent-child interaction
- Not known to parent or child
- That information is message from God
- Example
 - Joseph called to Egypt mission
 - David called to battle against Goliath

Clear Message to Child through Parent

- Parent receives message
- Form of communication God chooses
- To receive the message
 - Child must be available to parent
 - Listen to parent with intent to implement parent's advice
- Samuel presented himself to Eli each time he thought Eli was calling

Direct Instruction to Parent

- Parent receives message
- Form of communication God chooses
- Parent responsible for implementation
 - Child has little control
- If child responsible for implementation
 - Child must be available to parent
 - Listen to parent with intent to implement parent's advice

Normal Parent-Child Interaction

- Parental advice, instruction, request, etc.
- Child must be available to parent by habit
- Have positive fear of parent
 - Seeks to please the parent, through obedience, love, and wholehearted service
 - Fear of parent flows from fear of God
 - Motivates child to listen with intent to understand and implement parental advice, instruction, request, etc.

Normal Parent-Child Interaction

- Parental responsibility
- Recognize each parental instruction, advice, request, or other interaction
- Could be a message from God
- Parent should communicate clearly
- Verify child understands instruction, advice, request, etc.
- Verify child understands objectives

What If ...

- Samuel refused to respond to “Eli?”
 - Would have rejected call to be prophet

1 Samuel 3 (NIV)

4 Then the Lord called Samuel.

Samuel answered, “Here I am.”

5 And he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” But Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.” So he went and lay down.

What If ...

- Joseph refused Israel's request?
- Or turned around at Shechem?
 - Would have rejected mission to Egypt

14 Then he said to him, "Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he went to Shechem. [Genesis 37]

What If ...

- David refused Jesse's request?
- Or turned around at the camp?
 - Would have rejected mission to battle Goliath

17 Then Jesse said to his son David, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp.

18 And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them."

Honor Parents

Exodus 20 (NKJV)

12 “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

- Positive fear of parent
- To receive God’s messages through parent
- Necessary for successful life

What We Learned

- To receive God's message through parent
- Child must be available to parent
- Have positive fear of parent
 - Seeks to please parent, through obedience, love, and wholehearted service
 - Listen with intent to implement parent's advice, instruction, or request
 - Understand objective of parent's request, instruction, or advice