

Sermon Series: True Spirituality

Sermon Title: "Listening to God Speak"

Sermon Text: Selected Scriptures

Pre-Sermon: This is to help you prepare for hearing from God's Word.

- What would you say it looks like to live for Jesus in this world right now?
- What are some wrong ideas you have encountered regarding "spirituality?"
- How would you describe your attitude to the Bible lately?

Sermon Discussion Questions: This will help you think through the passage and what you heard in the message.

- Why are we talking about the importance of the Bible?
- What are some ways we emphasize the importance of the Bible for the Christian life?
- What are some differences with how we think about spirituality and how many other people do?
- Herman Bavinck once wrote, "God, and God alone is man's highest good." What are some reasons the knowledge of God is so valuable and important?
- What is different about the knowledge of God from all other knowledge?
- What are some of the illustrations of the link the Bible makes between God's Word and action?
- We sometimes can feel like God hasn't given us much in giving us His words, but what are some reasons that is a foolish perspective?
- What did we learn from Jeremiah about God, prophets and Scripture?
- What is the goal of God giving us written revelation?
- What difference does it make to approach the Bible as a means God has given to help you worship and enjoy Him?

Sermon Outline: A sermon is much more than an outline, but perhaps this outline will help you follow the sermon.

We are going to be looking at a number of basic truths with the goal of helping you appreciate the importance of Scripture.

1. There is a God.
2. God has spoken.
3. His Word is powerful.
4. Because there's a close connection between God and the words He speaks.

5. In the Bible, we discover one of the most common ways God speaks to people is through His appointed prophets in words they utter in ordinary human languages.
6. God speaks now through what He has spoken and we have what He has spoken written down for us in the Bible.
7. And He went through this process of speaking to the prophets and having them speak and write down what He said as a means of enabling us to have a relationship with Him.
8. We study what they wrote because we want to hear from God and we want to accurately understand what God is saying so that we can enjoy, worship and glorify Him.

Sermon Goal: This is a VERY short explanation of what this message is about and what I'm praying God will achieve through this message.

This isn't really a sermon exactly. It's more of a talk. But we are going to look at a lot of Scriptures to get an overview of what the Bible has to say about why it is important in order to encourage and motivate us about the significance of reading, studying, and listening to the Bible.

Important Passages: These are some of the Scriptures we will be looking at throughout this message.

- Jeremiah 10:12; Romans 11:36; Psalm 24:1
- Acts 17:24,25; 1 Timothy 1:17; Genesis 1,2,3; Hebrews 1:1-2
- Psalm 29; Psalm 147:18; Isaiah 55:10-11; 2 Corinthians 4:6
- Galatians 1:8; Exodus 33:19
- Exodus 4:14-16; Jeremiah 1:6-9; Jeremiah 29:4; Jeremiah 36; John 14:9; John 12:49,50; John 17:8-20; Luke 10:16; John 16:12-15
- 2 Corinthians 5:20
- John 17:25-26

Application Questions: We can't just read these passages, study them. It's vital we respond.

- How did this message cause you to worship God?
- How were you encouraged about God's salvation plan?
- In what way does this psalm motivate you regarding missions?

Sermon Notes: This is a place you can record your own notes and thoughts as you listen to the message today so that you can think about them later.