

Hearing God – Let's Build Him A Room! Dr. Nina Baratiak 01.22.2023

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Amos 8:11, NKJV]

"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD."

Not a famine of bread or of water. Not a famine of the words of the Lord. Because the Lord hasn't stopped speaking. But it is a famine of hearing!

[Matthew 6:6, NKJV]

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

[2 Kings 4:8, NKJV]

⁸ Now it happened one day that Elisha went to Shunem, where there was a notable woman, and she persuaded him to eat some food. So it was, as often as he passed by, he would turn in there to eat some food.

[2 Kings 4:9-10, NKJV]

⁹ And she said to her husband, "Look now, I know that this is a holy man of God, who passes by us regularly. ¹⁰ Please, let us make a small upper room on the wall; and let us put a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; so it will be, whenever he comes to us, he can turn in there."

We need to MAKE a space for the Lord in our life in order to hear His voice. A place set aside for the Lord in our day when He stays with us, and we can hear His voice.

Furnishings for the Secret Place:

1. Lampstand = the Word of God

There is no true light in our lives without the Word of God.

[Psalm 119:105, NKJV]

Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

[Psalm 119:130, NKJV]

The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

The Word of God fine-tunes our ears to hear His voice.

[Psalm 119:154b, NKJV]

Revive me according to Your word.

The Word of God is a key part of revival.

Furnishings for the Secret Place:

2. Chair = a place of Worship

[Psalm 22:3, NKJV]

But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel.

It is through our worship that we find the Lord's desires to linger in our midst.

It's here that He will begin to speak to us.

Furnishings for the Secret Place:

3. Table = a place of Prayer

[Psalm 23:5, NKJV]

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

The place of prayer in our lives is not only where we can hear His voice. It is also where our anointing comes from and where we can get filled up.

Furnishings for the Secret Place:

4. Bed = a place of Rest

[Matthew 11:28, NKJV]

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

[2 Kings 4:11-13a, NKJV]

¹¹ And it happened one day that he came there, and he turned in to the upper room and lay down there. ¹² Then he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite woman." When he had called her, she stood before him. ¹³ And he said to him, "Say now to her, 'Look, you have been concerned for us with all this care. What can I do for you?""

The Lord takes notice of the place we've given Him in our lives.

[2 Kings 4:14a, NKJV]

So he said, "What then is to be done for her?"

[2 Kings 4:14b-17, NKJV]

¹⁴ And Gehazi answered, "Actually, she has no son, and her husband is old." ¹⁵ So he said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the doorway. ¹⁶ Then he said, "About this time next year you shall embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant!" ¹⁷ But the woman conceived, and bore a son when the appointed time had come, of which Elisha had told her.

Key Points:

Furnishings for the Secret Place

- 1. Lampstand = the Word of God
- 2. Chair = a place of Worship
- 3. Table = a place of Prayer
- 4. Bed = a place of Rest

Applications for the Week:

1. This week take time to "furnish" your secret place with God by reading your Bible, spending time to worship, setting time aside to pray, and finding a place of Rest in Him.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Since last week's message on Hearing God, have you had an increase in your sensitivity to God's voice? How did it go spending time in the secret place?
- 2. How can we create space to hear God in a world that is experiencing a famine hearing Him?
- 3. Dr. Nina said our Secret Place needs furnishings. As a group, discuss the four different furnishings that we need in our Secret Place with God (Lampstand/the Bible, Chair/Worship, Table/Prayer, and Bed/Rest).
- 4. How can we practically apply these four furnishings to our daily time with God?
- 5. Dr. Nina said, "There is no true light in our lives without the Word of God." Why is the Bible vital to our relationship with God?
- 6. Considering prayer and worship, how do these reinforce the kind of relationship God seeks with each of us?

Group Action:

1. Invite your group members to share what miracles they are believing God for. Write them down and pray over the list together.