

Today's Message: "Eli"

Eli the Priest, Parent, and Judge

⁹ "Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. ¹⁰ She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. ¹¹ And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head." (1 Samuel 1:9-11, ESV)

Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the LORD. (1 Samuel 2:12, ESV)

"Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man." (1 Samuel 2:26, ESV)

⁵ "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ And the LORD called again, "Samuell!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." (1 Samuel 3:5-6, ESV)

"And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them." (1 Samuel 3:13, ESV)

¹⁷ "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has also been a great defeat among the people. Your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God has been captured." ¹⁸ As soon as he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell over backward from his seat by the side of the gate, and his neck was broken and he died, for the man was old and heavy. He had judged Israel forty years." (1 Samuel 4:17-18, ESV)

1. Eli's sons did not **know** the Lord.
2. Do what I **say** not what I **do**.
3. Eli **honored** his boys over God.

"I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." (Acts 3:6, ESV)

"Judges Series Continues"

Pastor Scott Stevens

August 9 & 10, 2014

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¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶ saying, "What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷ But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." ¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard." ²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. (Acts 4:13-21, ESV)

Show up

Jesus was willing to be identified with me,
why should I not want to be identified with him?

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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Scott asked three challenging questions about "Godly Parenting." 1) Am I raising my children to know God? 2) What behaviors am I living out before them that are in contrast to the ways of God? 3) Do I place my kids above God in my heart?
 - How did you as a parent "react" to these three challenging questions?
 - How are you "reacting" to these three challenging questions?
2. If we were to observe Eli at a distance I do not believe we would have identified him as a God Follower. If someone were to observe you at a distance would you be identified as a God Follower? At home? Work? In social settings? With friends? Your neighborhood?
3. Are there settings in your life that you have not been "showing up" identified with Jesus?
4. Read 1 Samuel chapter 1. Have you ever made an; "If you do this God then I promise I will...(fill in the blank)? Hannah kept her promise to God, did you?
5. Last thought; Eli seemed to be a better mentor to Samuel than he was a father to his own children. How could this have happened?

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