

**Message 3
Calling**

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**(1 Samuel 3:11-14. C/R: Numbers 15:30-31; Isaiah 55:11;
Amos 3:7; Hebrews 10:26)**

► **Outline**

Today's Message based on 1 Samuel 3:1-21.

"My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me."

John 10:27 (HCSB)

A. Introduction

(1 Samuel 3:1. C/R: Amos 8:11-12)

B. The call of God...

1. Reaches people _____.
**(1 Samuel 3:1-10. C/R: Genesis 22:1,11; Exodus 3:4;
Job 33:14-18; Romans 8:28-30; 2 Peter 1:3,10)**

3. Requires faithful _____.
**(1 Samuel 3:15-21. C/R: Deuteronomy 18:18-22; Proverbs
19:29; Luke 6:46)**

2. Reveals God's _____.

Answers: 1. personally 2. purpose 3. response

Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from NLT version (New Living Translation) of *The Holy Bible*. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide with friends or on your own to pursue your relationship with Jesus. Take time to reflect, learn and talk with God. Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

Name one thing that brought you joy this past week.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [1 Samuel 3:1-10](#).

1. What are some reasons why messages and visions from the Lord might have been *very rare* in those days? ([vs. 1](#))
2. *The lamp of God* ([vs. 3](#)) was a golden lampstand that stood in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle. The priests were to never let the lamp go out before morning ([Exodus 27:20-21](#); [Leviticus 24:1-4](#)). Why do you think the writer of Samuel included the detail that *the lamp of God had not yet gone out*? What does this add to the story?
3. Why did it take so long for Samuel to recognize God's voice?

Read [1 Samuel 3:11-21](#).

4. Why did God carry out His plans through Samuel and not Eli?
5. How would you describe Samuel's heart toward God in this story? Give examples.

In the Old Testament, *listen* and *obey* both come from the same Hebrew word, *shamar*. According to God, if we aren't obeying, we aren't listening.

6. In order to know what God is calling us to do, we need to grow in our ability to hear God's voice. What does Samuel's experience teach us about learning to recognize God's voice?
7. What else can we learn about hearing God in [John 14:15-21](#)?
8. How does Jesus' work on the cross relate to your obedience and calling? See [1 Corinthians 15:10](#); [Philippians 2:12-13](#).
9. Based on what I'm learning this week, I feel like God is telling me...

Soul Training

Spend at least 15 minutes alone with God each day this week – in a place as quiet and with as few distractions as possible. Read slowly through [1 Samuel 3](#) or the provided Daily Reading. Ask God to speak to you. Be open to whatever He might bring to your mind. Be patient. Release any romantic ideas of what this is supposed to look like, and simply talk with God about what you're experiencing. Use this time to cultivate a more intimate relationship with God.

Memory Verse

My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me.

[John 10:27 \(HCSB\)](#)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: [1 Samuel 3:1-10](#) Day 4: [Isaiah 41:8-10](#)
Day 2: [1 Samuel 3:11-21](#) Day 5: [Isaiah 43:1-3](#)
Day 3: [John 14:15-21](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, February 4, we'll continue our series *Belonging to God: The Life of Samuel*. To prepare for the message, spend a few quiet moments reading [1 Samuel 4:1-22](#).