



HEARING AIDS

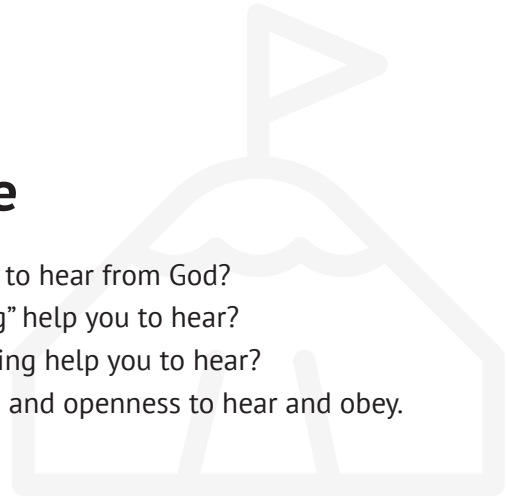
SUMMARY | Most of us long to hear from God. Directly. In words we can clearly understand and respond to. Right? Scripture catalogues several instances of God speaking to humans, actually more times than we might at first remember. One specific story—the interaction of God with Samuel in 1 Samuel 1–3—offers insight into how God speaks, and how we too can hear Him when we listen.

This Week's Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Samuel 1:1–28. Describe the setting and characters of the story. What is it Hannah asks of God? How does God respond? What can you learn from her asking posture?
2. Read 1 Samuel 2:12–3:1. What are Eli's sons up to? How does Samuel's posture contrast with theirs?
3. In 1 Samuel 3:2–7, we read that “the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to [Samuel].” What does that mean? How do we hear God differently before and after we come into a relationship with Him?
4. Read 1 Samuel 3:8–18. Samuel responds with a willing spirit when Eli finally realizes it's God calling out. What seven words does Eli tell Samuel to say to the Lord? Why these words? How might you respond to God with these words?
5. This story ends with 1 Samuel 3:19–4:1. What is the effect of Samuel's responding to God's call? How might God use you to take His word to your world?

Challenge

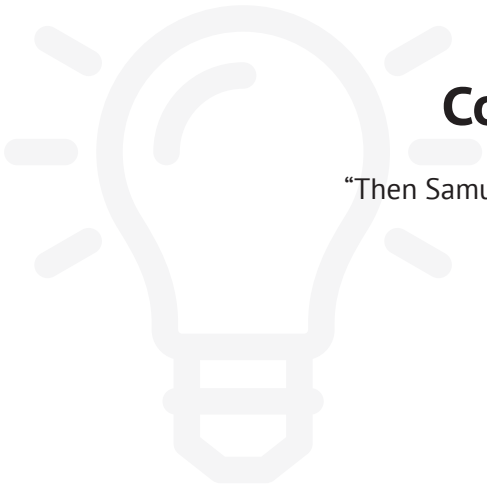
In what area of your life do you long to hear from God?
How might Hannah's model of "asking" help you to hear?
How might Samuel's response of listening help you to hear?
Write out a prayer to God expressing these desires and openness to hear and obey.



Commit To Memory

"Then Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening'".

1 Samuel 3:10 NIV



Prayer

Lord, I'm asking. Like Hannah, I pray for Your response. I trust You to provide.
And like Samuel, I ask You to "speak, for your servant is listening."

Amen.

