

WORD

⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears." ¹¹ Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. **1 Samuel 3:1-11**

The Hebrew word for **whisper** is *demamah*, which can be translated to *silence, stillness, or calmness*. Many people are battling restlessness due to the many troubles they face in life. God's whisper can give us the rest and peace that we need. God's voice instructs, guides, and lead us in the way that we should go. However, it's difficult to hear God's whisper in a society that values work and busyness above all else. Today, we are going to look at three factors to help us hear God's voice.

1

Personal – Right Relationship

"⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "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, "Samuel!" 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 3:4-6**

God is a relational God. From the beginning of time, God has revealed His desire to have fellowship with mankind. We were made in the likeness of His image – and we are to be like Him even in the relational aspect. God is a personal God – He speaks to His people. The question is whether or not we're listening. To hear from God, we need to move up close and personal with the Lord. What does Psalm 32:8 say about God?

2

Position – Right Atmosphere

“7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

1 SAMUEL 3:7-9

A spiritual atmosphere positions us to hear from God. One of the elements that can set the spiritual atmosphere is God’s Word. The deeper that we get into his Word, the easier we will hear His voice. The more we get into His Word, the more familiar we’ll be with His voice. There are many voices around us, and they belong to: the world/people, the enemy, the flesh, and God. We need to know God’s Word to determine whether what we are hearing is from God. Whatever voice we hear should not contradict His Word. Spiritual mentors/leaders can also help us discern God’s will and direction; the same way Eli was able to guide Samuel in the Scripture. How important is it to have a leader in your spiritual journey?

3

Posture – Right Attitude

“10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” **1 SAMUEL 3:10**

With the right posture, we hear from God. Samuel’s posture, upon hearing the voice of God, was that of humility. Humility is the way to God’s heart. Pride is the nature of the enemy. If we are too proud, we may only want to hear what we want to hear; and our ears are closed to hear from God. Our attitude should always be that of humility as we listen to God. What are the things that can harden our hearts to not listen to God?

APPLICATION

- Whose voice do you listen to the most? When was the last time you heard from God?
- What hinders you from hearing God's voice?
- Do you have a spiritual leader that helps you grow in your relationship with God?
- Make time to pray and read His Word this week, and write down anything that you hear from Him.

PRAYER

- Thank God for His presence in your life. Thank Him for His love and guidance in your relationship with Him.
- Ask God to open your ears to hear from Him. To incline your heart towards Him and to soften your heart towards Him. Pray for godly friends and leaders who can help you in your relationship with God.
- Pray for His help to humble yourself and be still before Him even when there seems to be a lot of things left to do. Pray for His help to fight for your daily quiet time with Him.



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