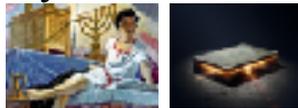


**3 June 2018** – Second Sunday after Pentecost. **Readings:** 1 Samuel 3:1–20; Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18; 2 Cor. 4:5–12; Mark 2:23 – 3:6.



**INTRO:** *Watcha hearin'?*/Your servant hears– 1 Sam. 3:10, “And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant hears.’” After I preached on this last a few people asked, “What if I don’t hear the voice of God?” Like Samuel, you may not be trained to hear God’s voice.



### I. Your servant’s NEAR THE SOURCE.

**1 Sam. 3:3**, “The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.”

Get near the temple, become a temple (get to know the Author), get near the Ark, read the word, study the word, meditate upon the word.

**2 Peter 1:19**, “We have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to **pay attention** as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.”

**Psalm 1:1-2**, “Blessed is the one... whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.” **Luther & 5C’s.**



### II. Your servant EXPECTS TO HEAR.

**Cf. 1 Samuel 3:1**, “the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.” Neither Eli nor Samuel expected to hear from God. It took three times! Finally! **1 Samuel 3:8**, “Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man.”

**Acts 2:17**, “In the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.” How long will it take for us to realise this?

The word of the Lord is NOT rare in our days, nor are visions!

If God says He’s going to call, or speak, or reveal things, He does!

**1 Samuel 3:9**, “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.”



**RSVP**  
ELI'S RESPONSE



### III. Your servant **LEARNS TO LISTEN AND RESPOND.**

**1 Samuel 3:9-10**, “If he calls you, **you shall say...** And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ **And Samuel said**, ‘Speak, for your servant hears.’”

**1 Samuel 3:17-18**, “Eli said, ‘What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me...’ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, ‘It is the LORD.’”



**CONCLUSION:** **Illus. Peter Steicke**, *Suddenly*. Chapter 10, *Suddenly*, his question stopped me in my tracks.

**1 Samuel 3:19**, “And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.” We all need to grow in our ability to be near, hear, listen and respond to God.

**1 Samuel 3:20**, “And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel (St. Paul’s) was established as a prophet of the LORD.”