

## BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”  
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

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## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



### MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

**Keith & Mariella Mills**

1. Praise that due to COVID-19 we have the opportunity to volunteer with the East Lothian Council Resilience Team to help people.
2. Please pray as the building we rent for church is closed due to COVID-19. We are doing services the best we can through Facebook.
3. Praise that we have been blessed by being able to care for our community by delivering prescriptions, groceries, and doing other odd jobs for those who are alone during this time.

## GROWTH GUIDE

## DEEP PRAYERS

Handout: 08/23/20  
Study: 08/30/20

### Lord, Speak To Me!

Hearing God’s voice is not something reserved for Old Testament figures like Samuel, or “super Christians” like pastors and other leaders. Every believer can hear God’s voice. It is unlikely that you will hear an audible voice, but He can speak loud and clear through His Word, through Bible teachers, and through His Spirit who lives inside of every believer. Here are some characteristics about Samuel that allowed him to hear from the Lord so clearly.

First, hearing God’s voice requires a servant spirit. 1 Samuel 3:1 says, “Samuel served the Lord by assisting Eli.” When I think of a servant I think of someone who is humble and does not seek attention or praise. I think of someone who is selfless, constantly putting the needs of others ahead of their own. Someone who has a servant spirit has God on the throne of their life, rather than themselves. If we refuse to give Christ the place of Lordship in our lives, humbling ourselves by choosing service to Him, then we will always struggle to hear His voice above the noise of our own selfish desires.

The next requirement is closely related to the last. Hearing God’s voice requires an obedient will. After the third time Samuel heard God calling him, Eli realized it was the Lord calling Samuel. So Eli told Samuel the next time he hears the voice to say, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.” Samuel obeyed and did just that. 1 Samuel 3:10 says, “And the Lord came and called as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel replied, “Speak, your servant is listening.” Not only was Samuel obedient to Eli, his God-given spiritual authority and mentor, but referring to himself as God’s servant implies he is also obedient to God. God speaks to those who humbly obey Him.

Another requirement to hear God’s voice is a listening ear. Again, 1 Samuel 3:10 says, “And Samuel replied, ‘Speak, your servant is listening.’” God will answer your prayers. He will give you direction. He will convict you. He will encourage you. You have to listen. In today’s culture listening is difficult. Listening requires you to tune out all other distractions. I have gotten in the habit of leaving my phone in another room while spending time with the Lord, because I don’t have the focus to tune it out when notifications pop up or when I’m reminded of that thing I needed to look up. But our phones are certainly not our only distractions. Our to-do list can be a major distraction. If I am more preoccupied with what I have to get done that day, I cannot focus my attention on hearing from the Lord. Listening requires effort and planning. It means setting the alarm earlier. It means putting down the phone. It means making Christ our priority. Just like a marriage would never thrive if one spouse never made talking and listening to the other a priority, our relationship with Christ cannot thrive if we don’t make Him our priority.

Source: “Hearing God’s Voice” by Joshua and Merribroke Croom

## KEY VERSE

I Samuel 3:10 (NKJV)

*“Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’  
And Samuel answered, ‘Speak, for Your servant hears.’”*

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Monday: I Samuel 3:1-21

#### Introduction

1. This week, we are praying and asking the Lord to speak to us. How has he spoken to you so far during our Deep Prayer series?
2. How did God speak to Samuel in today’s reading? How does it compare to the way that you communicate with God?

### Tuesday: I Samuel 3:1a; Hebrews 13:15; Acts 13:2

#### Thank God For What You Have

3. List some things you are thankful for. How often do you express thanksgiving to God?
4. How has worshiping the Lord helped you to hear from Him?

### Wednesday: I Samuel 3:7-9; Psalm 145:4; Proverbs 11:14

#### Seek Counsel From Mature Christians

5. Samuel heard God’s voice, but had not experienced it before. How close is your relationship with the Lord?
6. How did Eli help Samuel? Who are some mature Christians in your life that can help you to hear from God?

### Thursday: I Samuel 3:8-9; John 10:27; Psalm 119:105

#### Listen To God’s Voice

7. When we think of prayer, listening might not be the first thing we think about. What does it mean to listen to God?
8. How well do you listen to God? What does listening to God look like in your life?
9. We are bombarded with so many messages in our lives. How can you be certain that you have listened and heard from God?

### Friday: I Samuel 3:10-15; James 1:5-6; Psalm 25:8-15

#### Respond With Humility

10. How did Samuel’s response to Lord calling him demonstrate humility?
11. Samuel received big news from the Lord that night. How do you think you would handle such news? How did Samuel handle it?
12. Has the Lord given you a message during our Deep Prayer series? How can you respond with humility?