

ROOTED

IN THE SPIRIT

Message 8: Hearing From God

June 1, 2025

GROUP GUIDE

This guide is designed to help you grow in your relationship with God and develop meaningful, lasting relationships with others. Get together with friends, or visit brookwoodchurch.org/groups to build some new relationships. *Let's grow stronger together!*

INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE

1. Connect
2. Pray
3. Main Scripture
4. Explore and Discuss
5. Personal Application
6. A Practical Exercise
7. Scripture Memory

CONNECT

Here are some questions to get the conversation rolling.

- What stood out to you from the devotional or your Bible reading this week?
- How many requests and praises do you bring to God in an ordinary week of your life?
- Do you believe God speaks to you?

PRAY

Spend a few minutes in prayer, drawing your attention toward God. Consider these prayer points as you invite God to lead and guide you.

- Dear Lord, I pray You'd break through the noise and help me hear Your voice.
- Help me sense Your presence at all times in many ways.
- I'm here, ready to receive from You. I hold nothing back. Show me what it is You want me to know.
- Lord, grow my trust and dependence on You. Reveal parts of my heart and life where I rely on my power instead of the power You've given me through the Holy Spirit.
- I pray You'd help me experience you in this area (name an area) of my life this week.
- I pray You'd deepen my love and concern for the people around me.
- May the people of Brookwood (you might name specific people) experience more of your great love this week.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 3:1-11 (NIV)

¹ The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

² One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." ⁵ And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

⁶ Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸ A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if He calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening."

¹¹ And the LORD said to Samuel: "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle.

EXPLORE AND DISCUSS

Don't rush through this. It's OK if you don't get to all the questions. The goal is to have meaningful conversations that help you grow in your understanding of the Bible and your relationship with God and each other. Sometimes it will make sense to go on to the next question. Other times, you might stop down and process a bit longer. Allow God to guide the pace of your discussion.

1. What helps you, or could help you, discern if God is speaking to you?
2. How did Samuel respond to God's calling?
3. Describe a time when God spoke to you through the Scriptures.
4. Samuel didn't know God personally when he first heard God speaking, yet he knew about God. How has your relationship with God gone from knowledge to personal?
5. What fills your life and prevents you from being silent and listening to God?
6. What could you do to enable yourself to read the Scriptures with a more vulnerable heart and mind?
7. Considering your schedule, how can you structure your day or week so that regularly reading sacred Scripture is more likely to occur? What might you have to remove from your schedule to open a space for reading the Word?
8. God speaks to us through other people. How do you ask others to pray for you? Try asking those close to you to pray for something specific, not just a general prayer. Have them listen for what God tells them as you seek confirmation.
9. What does your current way of life reveal about your desire to hear from God?
10. We tend to focus on seeking God in the hard times. How can you grow in your reliance on God when things are going well?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What steps can you take to become more rooted in God? Ask God what He wants you to know and remember from this week's study and discussion. Share this with your group or a friend, and pray for each other.

Treasure silence to help you hear God's still, small voice.

A PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Hearing God is cultivated over time, just like any relationship. Lectio Divina, or divine reading, is one method to develop conversational intimacy with God. Visit

brookwoodchurch.org/spiritualpractice to learn more about this process. As you read through this, think about what aspects of Lectio Divina appeal to you most.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

One of the best ways to hear God throughout the day is to memorize Scripture. God often brings His words back to mind at just the right time!

Here's a verse to store in your heart and mind based on this week's theme:

And the Lord came and called as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" And Samuel replied, "Speak, Your servant is listening."

1 Samuel 3:10 (NLT)