

Lesson Aim: To guard our heart and focus on developing a heart that says “yes” to what God asks us to do.



connecting

Prayer: Start your time together by asking the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion.

Icebreaker: As a child, did you ever run into your parent’s bedroom after a nightmare or a disturbing dream? What was it?

1. When is a time in your life when you have felt “spiritually stuck”? Tell your group about that time.
2. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10. What do Samuel’s actions in these verses tell us about what he was like? How would you describe him to others based on what you’ve read?
3. Read about Eli’s own sons in 1 Samuel 2:12-17 and 1 Samuel 2:22-25. Given what you know of Eli’s own sons, how did Samuel compare? What do you think Eli thought of the comparison?



growing

4. Pastor Chris talked about “Active Listening” as a first step in growing an obedient heart. Describe the environment where you are best at “hearing” from God. Is it in church, your living room, the mountains, or somewhere else?
5. People are built differently. Do you tend to read the Bible for information or instruction? Which is your natural tendency?
6. Read 1 Samuel 3:11-18. Most scholars think that Samuel was a pre-teen when this story took place. What do you think went through Samuel’s mind when he heard the Lord’s message in 11-14. How would you react if you were given this message to give to Eli?
7. Is there a time when you have taken a step of obedience to God and it has led to new opportunities you never even considered? Tell your group.



sewing

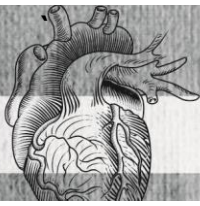
8. Samuel’s story shows us that courage is critical to developing an obedient heart. What is one of the most courageous things you’ve ever done in your life? What made you decide to go ahead and do it?
9. Read 1 Samuel 3:19-21. Describe the result of Samuel responding in obedience to God’s word. If you happen to know something of the rest of Samuel’s ministry, describe some of the impact that he had in the years ahead.



reaching

10. Take a few minutes to individually ask the Holy Spirit to identify a point where you have said “no” instead of “yes” to God. Take a few minutes to share that point with your group.

Close in prayer. This week focus on saying “yes” when God asks you to obey what He says in His word.



Heart

OBEDIENT HEART

Chris Calvert, Executive Pastor
November 27, 2011

Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. NLT

How to Make an Obedient Heart (1 Samuel 3)

1. Practice Active Listening (vs. 1-7)

- Tell God daily “Here I Am”.
- Read the Bible for Instructions, not just information.

Check out www.youversion.com

2. Say “yes” to spiritual growth by saying “yes” to God. (vs. 8-15)

- Choosing to say “yes” gets us spiritually unstuck.
- Choosing to say “yes” makes the next step clear.
- Choosing to say “yes” opens new doors

3. Get some courage, you’ll need it (vs. 16-21)

- Obedience is an act of the will.
- Practice First Time obedience.
- Tell a friend about choice you’re facing

Heart Exercises:

1. Commit to starting each day this week with a brief “Here I Am” prayer.
2. Take some time with your Bible this week to read and write down specific instructions as to what you are to do...and do it.
3. Exercise courage this week by telling a friend or your LifeGroup a place where God is asking you to say “yes” and you are stuck. Have them check back with you.