

**How to Have a Willing Heart!
Matters of the Heart, Pt. 3**

1 Samuel 3
June 25, 2023

1 Samuel 3:10, ...Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

1 Samuel 3:7, Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

How to Have a Willing Heart for God:

1. Spend Time in God's HOUSE

1 Samuel 3:1, The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions... **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.

Jeremiah 6:13, "From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. **14** They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. 'Peace, peace,' they say, when there is no peace. **15** Are they ashamed of their detestable conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush... **16** This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls."

Hebrews 4:12, For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

2. Listen for God's VOICE

1 Samuel 3:9, 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."

3. Believe God Wants to Use YOU

1 Samuel 3:11, 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."

4. Be Willing to Say HARD THINGS

1 Samuel 3:15, Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the LORD. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision... **18** So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, "He is the LORD; let him do what is good in his eyes."

Ephesians 4:14, Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. **15** Instead, speaking the truth in love...

5. Keep Growing SPIRITUALLY

1 Samuel 3:19, The LORD was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground.

Ephesians 4:16, From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

6. Don't Stop Listening to God's WORD

1 Samuel 3:21, *The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.*

Psalm 119:105, *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.*