

LIVING YOUR FAITH

BIBLE STUDY SERIES



Developed by

BE  THE MATCH[®]

LESSON 1: CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?

CENTRAL MESSAGE:

The importance of hearing God and being obedient

MUSICAL PRELUDE:

[*Speak to me*](#)

by Koryn Hawthorne

OPENING PRAYER:

Psalm 19:7-11

LESSON SCRIPTURE:

I Samuel 3:1-10 (NLT or MSG)

Supporting Scriptures:

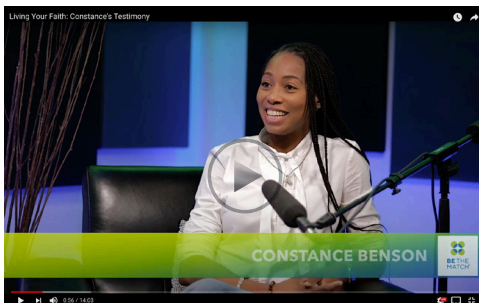
Genesis 12:1-3, 37:5

Exodus 3

Daniel 5

Matthew 2:13-21

Acts 9:1-9



Constance, stem cell transplant recipient

Lesson Introduction:

The phrase “Can you hear me now?” brings to mind the Verizon commercial with a man going to remote places to see if his phone service still worked. That commercial no longer runs and the Verizon man now works for Sprint. Times do change, but God does not. Is God asking, “Can you hear me now?”

In the Old Testament there are multiple references to God speaking audibly to people (Genesis 12:1-3, Exodus 3) and in dreams (Genesis 37:5). He even spoke by writing on the wall to the King Belshazzar (Daniel 5).

In the New Testament, God continues to talk to his people. In a dream He told Joseph to take his wife Mary and escape to Egypt to protect baby Jesus and told him when to return (Matthew 2:13-21). God spoke to Paul on the road to Damascus and converted him from a Christian persecutor to a Christian Apostle. God has the ability to speak audibly or deposit a knowing in our hearts.

In I Samuel we see that young Samuel is awakened by God’s call three times (verses 4, 6 and 10), but young Samuel did not recognize that it was the Lord calling. It was not until his mentor Eli told him that the call he heard was from God, that he understood. This was the first time young Samuel heard the voice of God and did not recognize it. The Lord speaks to us even today. If God has a message to share with you, would you recognize His voice?

Samuel’s response to the voice of God was “Speak, your servant is listening.” (NLT). In the King James Version of the Bible is reads “Speak; for thy servant heareth.” The word speak in Hebrew translates into the word “dabar”. Dabar has multiple meanings including command, tell, and pronounce. And the translation for “heareth” is “shama” which also has multiple meanings including obedience, consent and consider. So, in essence, Samuel may have responded to the voice of God by saying “Command for thy servant is obedient.”

Video Testimony: Constance

If you know anyone who is living with sickle cell disease, it’s not a surprise to hear how painful the experience can be. Constance had to drop out of college because her pain crises were so debilitating. Today, Constance is cured because her mother heard from God in her spirit and was obedient. [Listen to Constance share her powerful story that led to her cure.](#)

Is God asking,
“Can you hear
me now?”



Joshua, searching patient
with sickle cell disease

Discussion Questions:

1. Can you recall a time that you felt God communicated with you?
 - How did you know it was God?
 - Were you obedient?
 - What was the result?
2. What might have happened if Constance’s mother didn’t obey the Holy Spirit encouraging her to wait on her patient?
3. How can we be open to hear God when He speaks to us?
4. Do you feel that God is speaking with you currently?
5. How can we be sure it is God?

MUSICAL POSTLUDE: *Voice of God—Dante Bowe*

Prayer Requests:

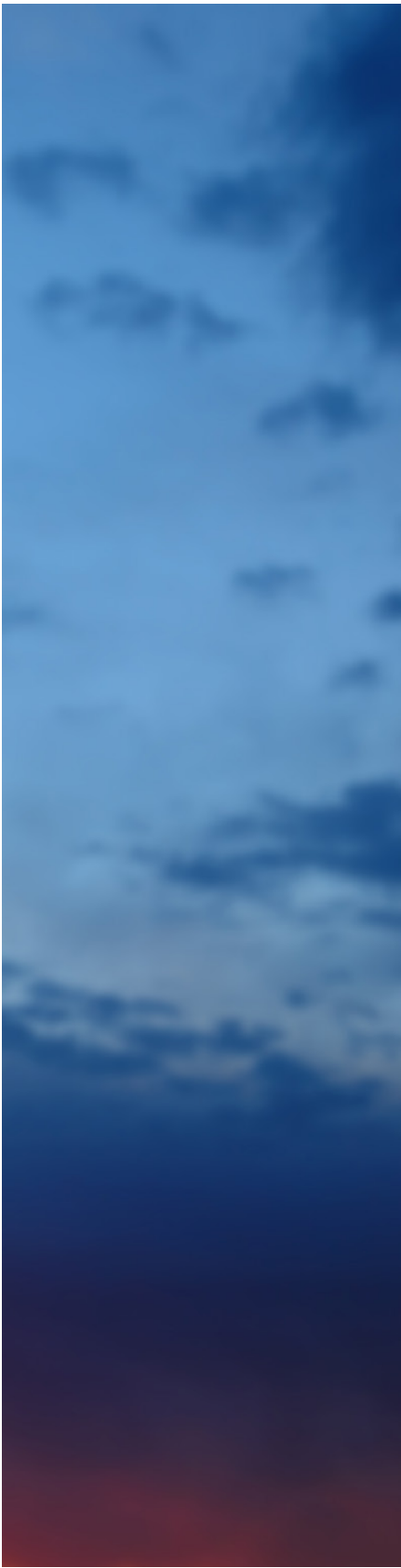
Pray for Joshua

When he was just 18 months old, Joshua suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed. Today, the 14-year-old uses a wheelchair to travel long distances, although he tries his best to walk unassisted at home. Like Constance, Joshua is battling sickle cell disease and receives monthly blood transfusions to help prevent further organ damage or strokes—but the only cure for sickle cell disease is a marrow transplant from a matching donor. Please pray that Joshua will find a match so he might live a life free of chronic pain and the complications of severe sickle cell disease.

AFFIRMATION: I am available to hear from God and
am obedient to His instructions.

To Join the Be The Match Registry text **FAITH** to **61474**

Notes:



CREDITS

Addie K. Sanders, Author

Addie Sanders is a wife, mother, and grandmother who serves as Associate Minister of Grace AME Zion Church in Charlotte, NC. Addie is also a member in Barbara L. Peacock Ministries where she serves as a Spiritual Formation Ministry leader. Addie is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Gardner Webb University School of Divinity with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling. She is employed by Be The Match as the Community Operations Program Manager. Addie's heart's desire is to experience an ever-increasing presence of God in her walk, family life and ministry.

Xavier Brandon, Contributor

Xavier Brandon holds a B.S. in Computer Science from Morehouse College and a Masters of Divinity with a concentration in Race and Religion from Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He is a prominent hip-hop artist, DJ, content curator, radio producer, podcaster and minister. He's married to his wife Ifie Natasha, and has two children, Brooklyn and Malik. Xavier strives to reconcile Hip-Hop culture with God, demonstrating that it is okay to have a love for the music and be in love with Jesus Christ.

Erica Sevilla, Editor

Erica Sevilla is a senior multicultural public relations strategist for Be The Match who shares the stories of lives changed through blood stem cell and marrow transplants. Erica holds a B.S. in journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and is the producer of Be The Match's Black Blood Heals podcast in partnership with iHeart Media. A mother of three children, she loves Gospel music and teaching Bible classes to elementary school children on Sunday mornings at Lifepoint Church in Lewis Center, Ohio.

KD Bowe, Video Production

A "motivator to the masses", KD Bowe is a legendary radio broadcaster turned philanthropist who daily provides actionable solutions and insightful responses to the socio-economic ills plaguing individuals, families and communities. His life's mission of educating and empowering individuals by offering a practical, principle-centered approach to living has caused KD to become a trusted advisor to many. He is the Founder and Executive Director of ManUP! Community, Inc. and owner of Kontent Faktory, Atlanta's premier digital content creation company.

About Be The Match

For people with life-threatening blood cancers—like leukemia and lymphoma—or other diseases, a cure exists. Be The Match connects patients with their donor match for a life-saving marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant. People can contribute to the cure as a member of the Be The Match Registry®, financial contributor or volunteer. Be The Match provides patients and their families one-on-one support, education, and guidance before, during and after transplant.

Be The Match is operated by the National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP), a nonprofit organization that matches patients with donors, educates health care professionals and conducts research through its research program, CIBMTR® (Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research®), so more lives can be saved. To learn more about the cure, visit **BeTheMatch.org** or call **1 (800) MARROW-2**.

