

## Sermon Summary – January 18, 2015, Pastor Alan Smith

### “Speak Lord”

Most of us have used caller ID to determine whether or not we want to answer our phones. If it is a number we don't know, we let the call go to voicemail. The question is, what do we do when God calls? Do we answer or ignore? In **1 Samuel 3:1-10** we read about Samuel being called by God to be His prophet. When God called, Samuel's response was “speak Lord your servant is listening.” What does God call us to do? There are some things that God calls everyone to do.

The first is that we repent from our sins. **Acts 17:30** *“God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him.”*

The next is we are called to take on His burden and to a place where we find rest. This is found in **Matthew 11:28-30**. When we respond to God's call we find salvation. **2 Thessalonians 2:14** *He called you to salvation when we told you the Good News; now you can share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Not only salvation for our souls, but also we get to share in God's glory

All Christians are called to live a holy life. This was His plan from the beginning according to **2 Timothy 1:9**, and according to **1 Peter 2:9** we are called out of the darkness.

Part of that Holy life is that we are to live in peace and allow the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. This can be found in **Colossians 3:15**. Peace is more than the absence of war. When we allow the peace of Christ to rule our hearts, we have a calmness in our souls no matter what situation we are in.

Another part of our calling according to **Galatians 5:13** is to serve each other in love and we are also called to live in hope for the future in **Ephesians 4:4** *For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.*

I just talked about some of the things that all Christians are called to by God. I know that God calls individuals at specific times for a specific purpose as he did with Abraham, Moses, David, Samuel, and Billy Graham. Our life as Christians is understood by our call. **1 Corinthians 7:17** *Each of you should continue to live in whatever situation the Lord has placed you, and remain as you were when God first called you. This is my rule for all the churches.*

God has a call for each of us. Do you hear His call? Are you listening? Some may say I can't. I found the following quote on my Logos Bible program. *“To question one's fitness for God's work on the basis of his/her own ability is to ignore the power of God. Whom the Lord calls, He prepares and empowers. We are not to rely on our own sufficiency. In that respect no one would ever answer the Lord's call. The issue is not what I can do for God; it is what God can do through me.”*

Let's listen to God's call and see what He can do through us!