

# God's Online Call

by Adventist Mission



Samuel couldn't understand why he was failing his university classes in Chile. He had always done well in high school. But in his first semester at the university, he failed algebra, calculus, physics, and chemistry — the very classes that he needed to pass to become an electrical engineer.

His second semester wasn't going any better. Then, just as he was preparing for final exams, he received an odd message.

A relative left a comment on a social media post thanking Adventist pastors during Pastor's Appreciation Month. He wrote, "Samuel, study theology."

Samuel thought the message was rather abrupt. The relative hadn't even greeted him or asked how he was doing.

He replied, "Hello! How are you?"

The relative wrote back, "I'm fine. Study theology."

It was not the first time that someone had suggested that Samuel become a pastor. He replied in the same way that he always did.

"I don't need to study theology to visit church members and preach and work for the church," he wrote. "But if the Lord calls me, I'm willing."

The relative replied, "Pray."

Samuel agreed to pray, and he did.

As he walked to final exams, he looked at the sky and said, "Lord, is that You? Are You really calling me? If You are calling me, I don't want to reject it. But I really need You to confirm. I don't want this to be just in my head. I don't want this to be Plan B just because Plan A didn't work."

Changing his major would mean giving up everything. It would mean leaving a career in engineering, moving far from home to study at Chile Adventist University, and potentially disappointing his parents.

Then Samuel remembered that Abraham had followed God without knowing where he was going. He remembered how the disciples had followed Jesus. He also remembered people who had rejected

Jesus. He thought about the people who had told Jesus that they first needed to say goodbye to their parents or claim an inheritance. He didn't want to be like those who rejected Jesus.

Samuel kept praying.

In his third week of prayer, he had a breakthrough. He remembered that when he had been baptized, he had chosen a Bible passage to be read at the occasion. He had been studying Matthew at the time and had chosen Matthew 28:19-20 where Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (NKJV). Thinking about the Bible passage, Samuel saw that it fit into the idea that God wanted him to be a pastor.

Samuel also remembered his own name. Like Samuel's parents in the Bible, his parents hadn't been able to have children. Before marrying his mother, his father had suffered testicle cancer and nearly died. A doctor had saved his life by removing the testicle. Afterward, the doctor had informed him that he would be unable to have children. But God had other plans. After marriage, Samuel's parents had prayed for a child and, when Samuel was born, chose his name, which means "asked of God." They had dedicated him to serve God.

When Samuel remembered his miraculous birth and the Bible passage that he had chosen for his baptism, he prayed, "Lord, I accept Your call. Now help me talk to my parents."

Samuel's mother immediately welcomed his decision. "I knew engineering wasn't right for you," she said.

But his father struggled. He had planned on having an engineer for a son. So much money had been spent in preparing him to become an engineer. Samuel had a younger sister who was already studying at Chile Adventist University, and the family home would be empty without Samuel.

But finally, his father accepted that God was calling Samuel to study theology.

Samuel left the local university without any debt, and he was accepted at Chile Adventist University just a week before classes started. The relative who had encouraged him to study theology was thrilled! Today, Samuel is 21 and studying to become a pastor at Chile Adventist University.

"I feel so grateful to God for the calling that He has given me," he said. "I'm willing to follow Him wherever He calls me."

*Chile Adventist University has about 3000 students, most of whom are not Adventist. Pray that this school will continue to not only train missionaries for Jesus but also be a mission field to the students in attendance. This story has been used with permission of Adventist Mission.*

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# World Church Prayer Requests

SEPTEMBER 19 — 25, 2025

- **World Church:** Pray for the youth in your local church and our world church. Pray that they would rise up to become bold, mighty, courageous voices of truth, sharing the Three Angels Messages and helping others prepare for Jesus' soon return.
- **United States:** Pray for the Bread of Life Ministries at Friendship SDA Church. This ministry has been offering home cooked breakfasts and the Word of God to the homeless and hungry every Sunday morning for the last forty years. Pray that God will continue to bless the efforts of the volunteers and that they will be strengthened and encouraged in their work.
- **Botswana:** Pray for Botswana's DX Mission, an evangelism initiative that trains and deploys young people for mission work through mission camps and outreach events. Pray that the staff and young people will truly be dedicated to God and that the hearts and minds of people in the field will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- **Papua New Guinea:** Pray for the local mission of the Tabubil SDA Church as they seek to move their headquarters to a location that will reach more people. Pray that as God supplies the finances and buildings needed, so the mission will do a great work among the two provinces, and many will be drawn to Jesus.
- **Ghana:** Pray for the personal ministries department of the Madina West SDA Church as they plan a weeklong outdoor evangelism campaign in their community. Pray that God will provide the resources and workers for house-to-house visitation and pour out His Holy Spirit not only on the people who are seeking for truth but also on the speaker and members themselves. Pray that every person who attends the meetings will have a transformed heart and renewed mind through Jesus.
- **Mexico:** Pray for children's ministries throughout Mexico. Pray that each child will form a deep and abiding relationship with God as they experience His love. Pray also that as the teachers do all they can to train and inspire the young people, they dedicate them into God's hands and trust Him to continue the work.
- **South Africa:** Pray for the Bot River Evangelistic effort beginning September 27. Pray that the Holy Spirit will gather the people He has prepared to the open air sermons on the Three Angels Messages and pray also for divine appointments as the church conducts home visitation. Pray that the Bot River community will be open to truth and that Jesus will be glorified.