

Samuel: Here am I

1Sam 3





1 Samuel 3:

1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD before Eli. And word from the LORD was rare in those days, visions were infrequent. 2 It happened at that time as Eli was lying down in his place (now his eyesight had begun to grow dim and he could not see well), 3 and the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was, 4 that the LORD called Samuel; and he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But



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he said, "I did not call, lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6 The LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he answered, "I did not call, my son, lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor had the word of the LORD yet been revealed to him. 8 So the LORD called Samuel again for the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli discerned



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that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 And Eli said to Samuel, "Go lie down, and it shall be if He calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 Then the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening."

God Calling

- **Another time of “quiet”...**
 - **Abraham, Moses...**
 - **A time of failure in the Land**
 - **“did what was right in his own eyes”**
 - **A miracle birth...**

Ministering to God

- **Samuel grew up in service.**
 - **Daily work around the temple**
 - **Caring for Eli, sight and needs**
 - **Sleeping near the Tabernacle**
 - **Where will God find you???**

'Rare' Moment

- **Just another normal night**
 - **Lamp had not gone out – early am**
 - **The Lord called – “Here I am”**
 - **Runs to Eli... “Here I am” you called**
 - **How many times...**

God Moment

- **“did not know the Lord”**
- **No revelation of the word**
- **He would be a “man of the Word”**
- **“let none of his words fail.” vs.19**
- **We need people of the WORD!**

God Revealed

- Eli finally gets it... discern, wise
 - “if He calls you” ... vs. 9
 - “Speak for Your servant is listening”
 - Eli had failed, his sons too...
 - *‘ebed*

God Comes Close

- “came and stood” personal
- No chance to miss Who it was...
- We need to break our patterns
- Expectations of “normal”

Samuel's God

- Samuel had a choice:
 - What he had seen, experienced
 - What he was given...
 - *shammah* – to listen, obey
 - New things!




I Samuel

3:19 Thus Samuel grew and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fail. 20 All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the LORD. 21 And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, because the LORD revealed Himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

4:1 Thus the word of Samuel came to all Israel.

One Voice

- **Because of Samuel...**
 - **God is restored to hearts**
 - **Sinful 'norms' are judged**
 - **Ark 'lost' & returned**
 - **Kings anointed...**

A hiker with long red hair, wearing a dark blue jacket and light-colored pants, is walking through a vast, open landscape. The hiker is carrying a large, dark green backpack. The landscape is a mix of green and brown grass, with rolling hills and mountains in the background under a cloudy sky. The hiker is looking towards the right side of the frame.

Speak, Lord,
for your servant
is listening.

1 Samuel 3:9