

The Call of God

1 Samuel 3

Samuel's Call - 1 Samuel 3 is a central piece of Samuel's story, his call from God and his elevation to a place of leadership and influence in Israel.

Concept: I hear from God when I am where I'm supposed to be; doing what I'm supposed to be doing. (Luke 1:5-11; 1 Samuel 2:11, 18, 21, 26)

"The Word of the Lord" - 1 Samuel 3:1

Precept: There is an obvious connection between the rarity of God's Word and the actions of God's spokesman, in this case the priesthood.

When God Speaks - 1 Samuel 3:2-10 - God speaks, not to the priest or his sons, but to young Samuel and he starts by getting his attention—God calls him.

Precept: Knowing the Lord is always first a miracle, by the Holy Spirit, of God calling, that I respond to. All of Samuel's duties and obedience are the setting for this moment and God speaks by calling him.

Summary: The Holy One of Israel, God Almighty is a speaking communicating God. He is not silent.

What God Says - 1 Samuel 3:11-18

Precept: When God calls, respond, when God speaks listen carefully, stand in awe and if needed obey immediately.

Summary: God always knows what is best (1 Samuel 3:19-21)

When God Steps In - 1 Samuel 3:19-21

Thoughts on the Call of God

The Word of God is essential in God's call on a person's life, for in knowing the Word of God we are equipped to discern his will for our lives. (Jeremiah 23:1)

Three important scriptures: Psalms 32:8, Proverbs 3:6, Isaiah 58:11

These essentials rest on pure motives (Luke 11:34); surrender to God's will and designs; a longing for the truth from the Word of God; prayer for God to reveal his will (James 1:5); and patience as God's plans unfold.

Those who hear the voice of God respond with humility and meekness.

God speaks in dreams, visions, voices, in His Word and through unusual experiences and events. But the still small voice is a common way of God working with our spirit to communicate his desires and direction—but we must be attune to it, listen and obey.