

**God speaks  
to Samuel.**  
1 Samuel 3:1-21



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Eli, the priest, was getting old. Samuel helped Eli take care of the Tabernacle. Samuel slept on a mat on the floor of the Tabernacle. One night Samuel heard a voice calling his name. Samuel jumped up and ran to where Eli was sleeping. "Here I am. You called me."

Eli said, "I didn't call you. Go back to sleep." Samuel went back to his mat on the floor. Soon, Samuel heard the voice again. Samuel quickly ran to Eli again, but Eli hadn't called him. Samuel went back to his mat again. But he heard the voice again! Samuel thought it had to be Eli calling! There was no one else who would call him in the middle of the night. Samuel ran to Eli. Eli realized that God was calling Samuel. God must have something important to tell Samuel.

Eli told Samuel to go back and lie down. Eli said, "If He calls you, say 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" Samuel did what Eli said. God told Samuel what He was going to do. Samuel listened to God.