

A scenic landscape featuring a paved road with a yellow double line leading through a valley. The road is flanked by green grass and a blue lake on the left. In the background, there are rugged mountains with a warm, golden glow from the setting or rising sun. The sky is a mix of blue and orange.

The Calling

How We Can Hear God's Calling in
Everyday Life

1 Sam 3:1-10

The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am."

He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli said. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep.

Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But he answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep."

At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet.

The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth.

So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" When Samuel went to sleep in his place,

the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

What It Means To Call



- ✓ God has always been calling people throughout Bible history
 - ✓ Why?
- ✓ A divine summoning
- ✓ Secular basis
 - ✓ Jobs
- ✓ Religious Basis
 - ✓ Helping out with church work
- ✓ Using our roles to fulfill the divine purpose

If We Want To Answer God's
Calling, We Must Know God.

The Mission Trip Funny Moment.

If We Want To Answer God's Calling, We Must First Recognize His Voice.

- ✓ God is everywhere in our lives
- ✓ Be silent – Our lives have too much 'noise'
- ✓ Signals or stimuli (Emptiness)

The Cellphone Analogy

We could be

- ✓ Too preoccupied with worldly affairs
- ✓ Shutting God off
- ✓ Too lazy to do anything about it

If We Want To Answer God's Calling, We Must Be Willing To Learn From Others.

- ✓ The Role of Eli
- ✓ Parents, Church Leaders, Christian Brethren
 - ✓ Experience in life and spiritual maturity
 - ✓ Objective viewpoints
- ✓ Overcoming our inertia
- ✓ Might be difficult to come to terms with
- ✓ God works through people around us

This Means We Must Learn To Listen To God.

- ✓ “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.”
1 Sam
 - ✓ Jn 10:27 “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”
- ✓ Finding out what we’re to do
 - ✓ Manage our daily lives
 - ✓ Reflection, meditating on His Word
 - ✓ My End of Day routine
- ✓ Live Competition Experiences

Our Readiness To Answer His Call.

- ✓ Here I am – 5 times.
- ✓ Where our priorities lie
 - ✓ Affects the way we see things
- ✓ Emphasis on quality over quantity
 - ✓ How much we focus
- ✓ Being familiar with God's voice
 - ✓ Pavlovian Conditioning
 - ✓ Distinct voices in my life

If We Try.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt and
the Great Depression.

Filling Up Vacuums



- ✓ The Blacksmith of Vermont
- ✓ Business Ideas in BCG
- ✓ Finding an area of need
 - ✓ Eg. Shortage of men to serve etc.
 - ✓ Luke 5:32 “I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”
 - ✓ ‘Where there is darkness, we will shine the light’
- ✓ Astronomy

Starting Out Small



- ✓ Doing all things under our charge faithfully
 - ✓ Debaters' Hierarchy
- ✓ A little thing is a little thing, but faithfulness in a little thing is a great thing.
 - ✓ Over-commitment
 - ✓ Underestimating tasks
- ✓ Lk 16:10
 - ✓ Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.

Going Beyond



- ✓ Bringing about change and discomfort
- ✓ Fear, loss of security
 - ✓ Comfort zone, courage zone
- ✓ Going on the Puchong Mission Trip
 - ✓ On opening up to others and talking to strangers
 - ✓ On conviction about God's message
 - ✓ On trust and certainty

Conclusion



Isaiah 6:8