

# God Is Calling You

(Part 1)

<sup>1</sup> *The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.* <sup>2</sup> *One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place.* <sup>3</sup> *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.* <sup>4</sup> *Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am."* <sup>5</sup> *And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.* <sup>6</sup> *Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."* <sup>7</sup> *Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.* <sup>8</sup> *The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy.* <sup>9</sup> *So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" "So Samuel went and lay down in his place."* <sup>10</sup> *The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."* (1 Samuel 3:1-10)

God every now and then, even we can say continually He is calling people to worship Him and serve Him. He is calling here Samuel for a goal and for a purpose. There were certain circumstances at the time of Samuel that dictate and mandate the call of God to Samuel.

**1- In those days the word of the LORD was rare:** Why the Word of the Lord was rare? Because there was no one who is willing to listen, obey and walk in the way of the Lord. When God will find people willing to listening then God is willing to speak, but when people neglect God and what he says to them the Lord will remain silent. God will speak when people are humble and not arrogant as His Word says, *"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way."* (Psalm 25:9) God speaks to warn the people, <sup>14</sup> *For God does speak—now one way, now another— though man may not perceive it.* <sup>15</sup> *In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on men as they slumber in their beds,* <sup>16</sup> *he may speak in their ears and terrify them with warnings,* <sup>17</sup> *to turn man from wrongdoing and keep him from pride."* (Job 33:14-17) God would speak to warn and He wants people to listen.

**2- In those days there were not many visions:** Why there were not many visions? In fact God will give clear visions to those who are willing to listen and obey His Word. Therefore and as a consequence of lack of vision we find people moving in disorder and without any plan. Sometimes you find people they have incomplete or incorrect vision; these are in fact not God's vision but their own ambitions and plans. With disobedient generation, you will not find clear visions in their lives.

**3- Spiritual blindness and stagnation: Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place.** That does not reflect only the physical condition of the priest being weak in sight, but a symbol for the low spiritual status of the office of priesthood. As we know that Elis' children were corrupted, *"for they were*

*treating the LORD's offering with contempt,"* and where immoral, *"and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting."* Eli heard about all those things but he did not do anything about it so God decided to judge him by removing him from the place he assigned for him, *"because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, and he failed to restrain them."*

**4- Somebody should stand for God:** With such corrupted setup, then God's law should be restored and brought back into the reality of the people. *"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."* For sure God would do something to restore things to what ought to be. Samuel was available there and God found in him the criteria that he is looking for.

**The boy Samuel:** When we speak about a boy we mean a child. And what we can see and found in children? Jesus said, *"I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."* In a child or a boy we can found the following:

- A- Purity and clean heart:** In the heart of the child there is no malice, there is no politics and there is no manipulation. For God to call you, He wants to see the same in your life and heart. God wants us to be pure in motive and our hearts desires are noble and clean. God wants someone who is with a clean heart so He can open what is in His heart to him.
- B- Faith and full trust in God:** When you speak with a child he would believe everything that you would tell Him. In the same way God wants us to have a real faith and full trust and surrender to Him. God wants you to believe in Him even for the impossible.
- C- Full dedication to God:** Samuel was dedicated by his mother to the Lord. His mother was barren and she promised the Lord that if He would give her a child she would dedicate him to the Lord. God wants people fully dedicated to Him and to serve Him wholeheartedly. Good point here to those who are parents; you need to dedicate yourselves and your children to the Lord; that your children would be raised up in the knowledge and the fear of the Lord. All of us we want a good future for our children. We want them to be prosperous and successful in their lives therefore we need to raise them up in God's presence and the Lord Himself will bless them and prosper them. Truly they will grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men. The word of God admonish us the following: *"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."* (Proverbs 22:6) The future of our children is in our hands so we need to be faithful to what God had entrusted to us.

**My dear and beloved:** Who would think that the boy Samuel one day he will be the leader, the judge and the deliverer that God will use to save Israel. The same for you today, God is calling you to do something for Him, and He wants you to be ready and respond to His call as you agree to pray.

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit my life and my ways in your hand, make me the person that you wants me to be. Lord Jesus as you died on the cross for my sins here am I today, I dedicated my life and respond to you with full trust, faith and surrender to do your will, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*