

1. Is God still speaking today?

**2. How do we listen to
His voice today?**

Hearing from the Lord: The Case of Samuel

1 Samuel 3:1-11



1 Samuel 3:1-11

1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place.

3 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 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, “Here I am!”

5 and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.

9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’ ” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.”

11 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

**1. Be Faithful
to Serve Under His Word**

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1 Now the boy Samuel was **ministering** to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

— To serve in the LORD's house was **to serve according to the LORD's word**. (Num. 3:6-9, Num. 18:23, Lev. 24:3.....)

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and **in favor with the LORD and also with man.**

(1 Sam. 2:26)

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

- 1 My son, do not forget my teaching,
but **let your heart keep my commandments,**
- 2 for length of days and years of life
and peace they will add to you.
- 3 **Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;**
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
- 4 So you will **find favor and good success**
in the sight of God and man. (Prov. 3:1-4)

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and **in favor with the LORD and also with man.**

(1 Sam. 2:26)

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And **the favor of God was upon him.**

And Jesus **increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.**(Lk. 2:40, 2:52)

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

1 Now the boy Samuel was **ministering** to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

a. Faithful in the Plain



1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

1 Now the boy Samuel **was ministering** to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the **word of the LORD was rare** in those days; there **was no frequent vision**.

a. Faithful in the Plain

b. Faithful under Strain (during dark time)

c. Faithful before the Flame

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 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.

– **The lamp signifies God's continuing presence, and 'had not yet gone out' hints that God was still working toward restoration.**

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

A bruised reed he will not break, and a **faintly burning wick he will not quench**; He will faithfully bring forth justice. (Is. 42:3)

**The flame was faint, but still burning.
Eli was fading, but the LORD was still working.
The God who does not quench the faintly
burning wick was about to call Samuel
and bring His word back to Israel.**

1. Be Faithful to Serve Under His Word

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 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.**

– **Samuel was “resting” in the presence of God**

**2. Be Ready
to Listen to His Word**

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a. Responsive to the Word

4 Then **the LORD called Samuel**, and he said,
“**Here I am!**”

5 and **ran** to Eli and said,

“**Here I am, for you called me.**”

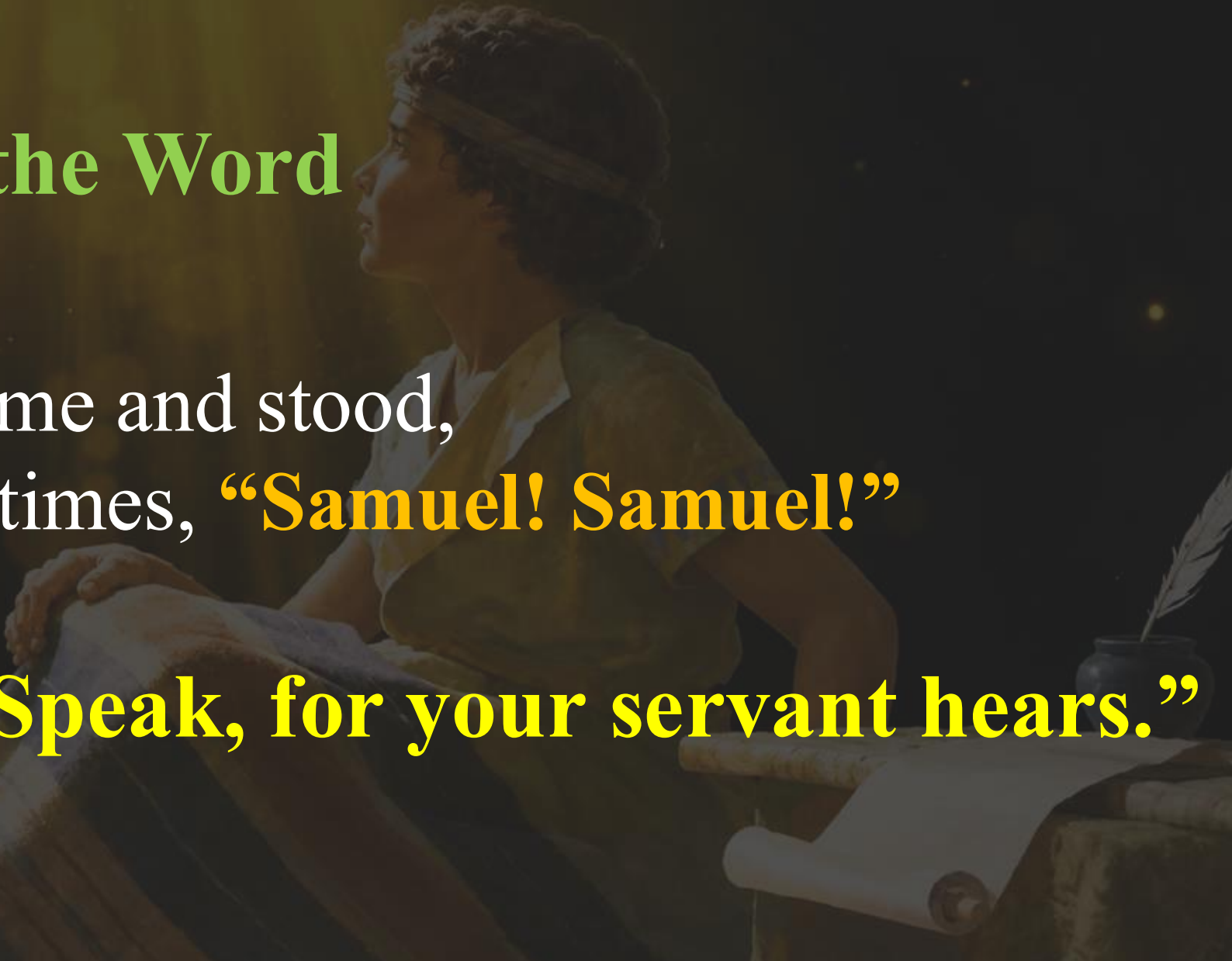
But he said, “**I did not call; lie down again.**”

So he went and lay down.

2. Be Ready to Listen to His Word

b. Submissive to the Word

10 And the LORD came and stood,
calling as at other times, **“Samuel! Samuel!”**
And Samuel said,
“Speak, for your servant hears.”

A young boy with curly hair, wearing a white shirt and a dark vest, is seated at a desk. He is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. On the desk in front of him are several rolled-up scrolls and a quill pen in a small container. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a study or library.

**How do we listen to
His word
today?**

1 Long ago, **at many times and in many ways**, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but **in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son**. (Heb. 1:1-2)

All Scripture is **breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. (2 Tim. 3:16)

But the **Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, he will **teach you all things and bring to your remembrance** all that I have said to you. (Jn. 14:26)

Holy Spirit

The Bible

Be Faithful

Be Ready

You and I

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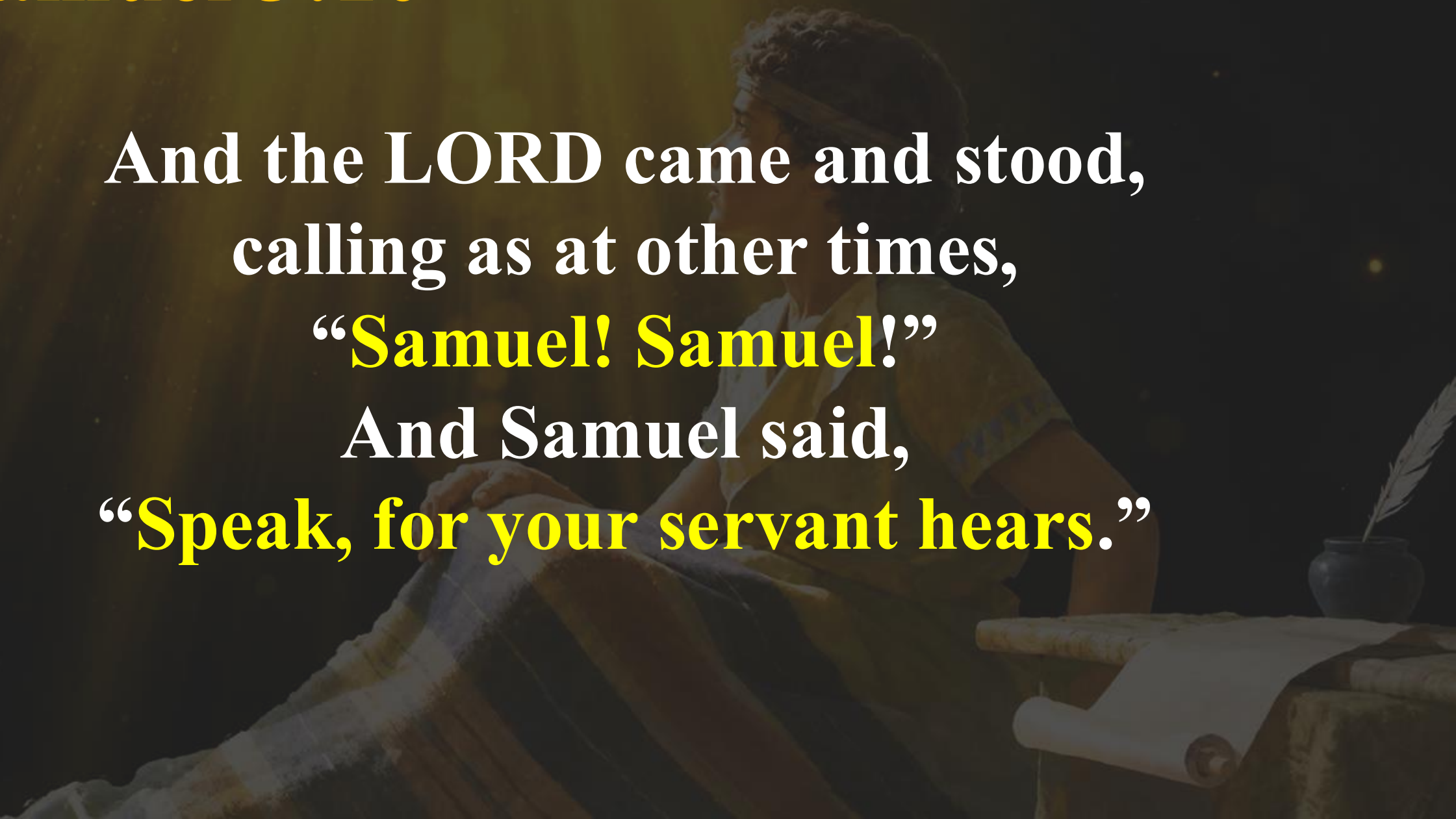
1 Samuel 3:10

And the LORD came and stood,
calling as at other times,

“Samuel! Samuel!”

And Samuel said,

“Speak, for your servant hears.”



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1 Samuel 3:1-11

