He Speaks to Me

PREPARING TO HEAR FROM GOD

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Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD before Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent.
—1 Samuel 3:1

Samuel was a child.

Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor had the word of the LORD yet been revealed to him.
—1 Samuel 3:7

“Permit the children to come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”
—Luke 18:16

1. Jesus welcomes children.

2. Jesus makes a promise to children.

The manifestation of the power, presence, and voice of God is available to you now!
Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord before Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent. —1 Samuel 3:1

Samuel was a worshiper.

Undistracted worship develops intimacy with God.

Things we are held captive by:

• Pharaoh of religious boundaries.

• Pharaoh of the need to please.

• Pharaoh of comparison.

• Pharaoh of past experiences.

• Pharaoh of sin.
Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord before Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent.
—1 Samuel 3:1

Samuel was set apart.

set apart = sanctified and holy

Sin provokes God to withhold His word.

Three stages of sanctification.

1. Positional sanctification
2. Lifestyle sanctification
3. Ultimate sanctification

1. Remember the Promises

The Promise of Fellowship
The Promise of Relationship

2. Remove the Baggage
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.

—1 Samuel 3:3

Samuel was still.

Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.”

—John 6:10

Lord, why?

A special purpose

Lord, where?

A special place

Lord, how?

A special power
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.  
—1 Samuel 3:3

Samuel got as close as he could to the manifest presence of God.

As [Jesus] was approaching Jericho, a certain blind man was sitting by the road, begging. Now hearing a crowd going by, he began to inquire what this might be. They told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.  
—Luke 18:35-37

1. The manifest presence of God is available to you.

2. The manifest presence of God is attainable for you.

   Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied.  
   —Luke 6:21

   Ask your friends what you’re hungry for.

   Ask yourself, What keeps me awake at night?

3. The manifest presence of God is vital to us.

   His presence alone is life giving.
The Lord came and stood and called as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for Thy servant is listening.”
—Samuel 3:10

Samuel was a servant.

Submission is the heart of servanthood.

He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.
—John 13:5

To be a true servant of God you have to be willing to:

- leave your own comfort
- and satisfaction behind
- remove the hindrances
- take up your towel

Being a servant is not about your talk, it’s about your walk.