

The Parts God Calls Us to Play:
Eli—Helping Others Hear God's Voice
1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-4:1a

SAMUEL IS AWAKENED BY A VOICE HE DOES NOT KNOW

A. Samuel is awakened by a voice and thinks he's hearing Eli.

(Verse 5) 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.

(Verse 7) Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

B. We are awakened by voices we do not recognize as the voice of God.

ELI HELPS SAMUEL RECOGNIZE GOD'S VOICE

A. Eli recognizes that God is calling Samuel.

(Verse 8b) Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy.

B. Eli knows that Samuel must hear God's voice for himself.

C. Eli teaches Samuel how to answer when God calls.

(Verse 9) 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.

1. Samuel must want God to speak.

2. Samuel must approach God as His servant.

God reveals himself to us not only for our enjoyment but also for our employment.

3. Samuel must live before God with a listening heart.

(1 Thessalonians 5:17) Pray without ceasing.

Who is the Samuel God has placed in your life?