

Bible Study
1 Samuel 3

1. What is Samuel doing in the opening verse of 1 Samuel 3? Who is with him? What was rare in these days? Why would there be silence and no frequent vision from the LORD?
2. Why would Eli be laying down? What do we learn about his physical condition? Where is Samuel lying down? Where is the ark located? What is the lamp of God? How long did it burn each day?
3. Who called to Samuel? Why would he think it is Eli that is calling him? How many times is Samuel called before Eli figures out what is going on? Why would it take Eli so long to figure it out? Why would it take Samuel so long to figure it out?
4. What does Eli tell Samuel to do when he hears the voice again? How is Samuel to describe himself? How many times does the LORD say Samuel's name after the third calling? Why is that significant?
5. What does God say will happen to the people that hear His message? Why is the LORD against Eli? How long will Eli be punished? Who is guilty of blaspheming? Why is Eli guilty? As far as Eli and his house are concerned, what will never be atoned for? Is this fair?
6. How long does Samuel wait to tell Eli about his vision? Why would he be hesitant to speak to Eli? What does Eli threaten Samuel if he fails to disclose what God had told him? Do you think Eli was surprised at what he was told? Why or why not? How does Eli respond to this proclamation?
7. Why would Eli be okay with the pronounced judgment even though it concerns him? Can we relate to how he feels in this instance?
8. What does it mean to not let any of his words fall to the ground? Who recognizes Samuel as a prophet of the LORD? Who tells them? Where does God appear again? How does this contrast with what we read at the beginning of the chapter? Are there times in our lives where God seems to be silent for long stretches?