



DAY 38:

HEAR THE CALL

Since the beginning of time, God has been calling men and women to serve Him. Scripture contains stories of many who heard God speak and recognized a special calling He had on their lives. God called Samuel when he was but a lad. When he first heard God speak his name, Samuel ran to Eli the priest thinking Eli had called. Eli, recognizing it was the Lord, instructed Samuel on how to respond.

The angel Gabriel came to Mary to share that she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus. Mary didn't understand everything that was about to happen, but she responded with, "See, I am the Lord's servant. May it happen to me as you have said."

When Jesus went back to the Father He left us with a specific command, to "be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth," (Acts 1:8) and is still calling men and women to fulfill that mission today.

Is He calling your name? Would you respond like Mary? Or, do you perhaps recognize that He is calling someone in your church? How can you, like Eli, help them to recognize the voice of God and respond to His calling?

Father, may our ears be listening for You to call our name. Help us to respond like Mary with, "May it happen to me as you have said." Help us as a church to be sensitive to Your call on the lives of others and, like Eli, lead them to recognize Your voice. There is a big world out there that needs Jesus and You are calling us to the great task of reaching them with the gospel. In Jesus' name, amen.

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"He told Samuel, 'Go and lie down. If he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came, stood there, and called as before, 'Samuel, Samuel!' Samuel responded, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'"

1 Samuel 3:9-10