



## Walking in the *Foot Prints* of Jesus A Discipleship Journey

*The OLD TESTAMENT-* Their Story is Our Story  
Samuel  
1 Samuel: 1- 3

The first and second Books of Samuel tell us about the end of the period of Judges and the beginning of the kingdoms of Israel. In Chapter 1 Samuel is born to Hannah, a woman who was without children for some time. She prayed to the Lord for a son and promised that, if God answered her prayer, she would leave her son with the priests at Shiloh to serve God. She did conceive a son and, when he was weaned, he was taken to the priests and left there to grow up and serve the Lord. There he lived with Eli.

During the time that Samuel was serving Eli, the Lord chose to reveal himself to Samuel. Eli and Samuel were asleep in the temple and the Lord called to Samuel. Samuel, thinking it was Eli who was calling to him, went to Eli and said, "Here I am." This happened several times and finally Eli realized that it was God calling to Samuel. Eli told Samuel to go back to sleep, but if he was called again, to say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel did this and the Lord called him again. The Lord spoke to Samuel and revealed some of the things that would happen in the future. This was just the beginning of Samuel's relationship with God. He became a great prophet and holy man, renowned in all the land. Samuel continued to speak for the Lord and anointed the first kings of Israel, Saul and then David.

We have all heard the saying, "God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called." This is a prime example of that saying. Samuel didn't know God when he was called. God saw Samuel as someone who could obey and follow His law. God called him to be a great prophet and showed him the men who would become the first kings of Israel. Samuel helped these men with their relationship to God and helped them interpret God's will for them.

God calls us, too. We are called to serve God's people, take care of the elderly, deal with a sick child or spouse, help someone with drug or alcohol addiction, financially support someone who needs some help, even when we feel unqualified. God doesn't expect us to know how to do this, but He does expect us to trust that He will be with us as we do. Our role may be revealed when we trust enough to say "Yes" to God's call.

Being a disciple of God means that we trust God's plan for us. It means we willingly serve others when called, even when we don't know exactly how that should be done. God will give us the answers. He will give us the people we need to help us with these tasks and the knowledge we need to do them, if we ask Him and then listen for the response, truly listen.

**Think of something in your life that you don't feel entirely qualified to handle. Ask God for advice and for answers to your dilemma. Spend some quiet time with God listening for His response.**