- Evaluate Eli's response.
- ❖ Do you believe God can begin to draw your child to Himself even before he or she fully understands who God is? If so, what is the appropriate response for a parent to God's activity in their child's life?

"Speak for Your servant hears." - 1 Samuel 3:9b

- If we want our children to respond in this manner, we must be willing to do the same. In what ways have you sensed God's drawing in your life?
- Did you respond in submission and willingness, or did you attempt to drown out His call?

Verse 10 describes the Lord standing with Samuel. Don't wait for a physical manifestation from God to decide to listen to Him. Every time you go to His Word, the Bible, you should say, "Speak for Your servant hears."

- How important is clear guidance from the Lord for the incarcerated mom?
- Does it really make a difference? If so, in what way?

Assignment

1. Summarize in your own words the message that Samuel received from the Lord.

2. Why was Samuel reluctant to pass it on to Eli? How did Eli respond once he heard the prophecy?

3. What do you make of Eli's response? What does it say of his character? Did he have any other options of response?

4. Read 1 Samuel 3:19-21 again What specifics are told about Samuel's special life?

And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD. And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.—1 Samuel 3:19-21

Are you desperate for guidance from the Lord? Many times in the Bible we see God's people waiting in great expectation for direction, confirmation or an explanation. It is enough when God speaks.

To know that the Lord is mindful of you and acting in accordance to His divine character and perfect plan is enough! For a believer, guidance from the Lord brings comfort and peace like nothing else can. Seek Him with your whole heart and you will find Him!

Final Verses

Lesson 6

And He said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it." (Luke 9:23-24)

Lesson 7

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

Lesson 8

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)

Lesson 9

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 16-18)

Lesson 10

Call to Me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:3)

>> Hannah's Gift The Heart of the Mother ◆

Lesson 10

Memory Verse

Call to Me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:3)

Samuel: By responding to God's voice and leading, Samuel was a game changer in God's grand plan.

And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.—1 Samuel 3:1

- Thinking about what you learned about the period of the judges, what do you suppose the rarity of the Lord's word meant? Why would God purposely do this to His people?
- How does this relate to our day and culture?

And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. -1 Samuel 3:6-7

❖ When the Lord called to Samuel, he assumed it was Eli's voice. Why did he not recognize that it was God? (See verse 7).

And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.— 1 Samuel 3:8-9