

"GOD IS TALKING TO ME?"

August 31, 2024

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

I Samuel 3:1-10



Memory Verse

The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening. (CEV)

I Samuel 3:10

CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron Vandenburg
illustrated by Chad Thompson



Sebastian was excited to visit his friend's church with his family. The songs were not too familiar to him, but he enjoyed some of the instruments he heard. The offering plates went by, and Sebastian got excited because that meant the children's message was next, and then he could go to the children's church. But then the plates passed by, and the pastor got up and began the sermon. Did the pastor forget? Sebastian sat there, confused about what was happening.

Perhaps you haven't understood how things happen during a church service either. Maybe it was something you'd never seen before, or maybe going to church is new for you. It's okay to have questions. The good news is that God's happy when we all come together and worship him, whether we've been to that church a hundred times or are new for the first time.

While we might not hear from God just like Samuel did in the temple, picture a worship service as a conversation between God and his people:

- God starts the worship service and says, "I'm glad to see you! It's been a long week. Come in and let's talk."
- The worshipers say, "Thank you for being with me through the week. You encourage me every day. I'm so thankful that you are so big and strong! I love you. Sorry for the times I hurt you."
- When we read Scripture together, God says, "I forgive you. I have written down some things I want to tell you."
- The worshipers say, "Thanks! Hearing from you helps me understand what is happening."
- When worshipers eat the bread and drink from the cup, God says, "Here is some food for your journey."
- Worshipers respond by saying, "Thanks! You have given me so much already. What can I do in return?"
- God sends us out to the world, saying, "Use my gifts. Go with my blessing!"
- Worshipers praise God, saying, "Thanks! You're awesome."

The next time you sit in church, ask yourself, "Who is talking right now—God or me?" Tell God what you need, and listen to what he says to you.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for talking to me. Thank you for those who help me hear your voice. Amen.

written by Philip Vander Windt