

# 1 Samuel 3:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me.  
And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

## Analysis

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Samuel's immediate running to Eli shows his servant's heart and responsiveness. He naturally assumes the familiar voice is his elderly mentor. Eli's denial ('I called not') is truthful but initially uncomprehending. His instruction to 'lie down again' reflects no spiritual insight yet. The repetition of Samuel's running and lying down demonstrates obedience even when confused. His pattern of immediate response to perceived calls shows the heart God can use. Correct hearing will follow correct availability.

## Historical Context

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Mentoring relationships in ancient Israel involved close proximity - disciples served masters intimately. Samuel's assumption that Eli called reflects normal expectations of such relationships. The master's voice was the expected voice.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does obedient response even in confusion demonstrate a heart prepared for God's call?
2. What mentoring relationships have shaped your ability to hear God?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּרָץ	אֶל	עַל י	וַיֹּאמֶר	הִנְנִי	כִּי	קָרָאתִי	לִי
And he ran	H413	unto Eli	and said	Here am I	H3588	I called	H0
H7323		H5941	H559	H2009		H7121	
וַיֹּאמֶר	לֹא	קָרָאתִי	שׁ וַיִּב	וַיִּשְׁכַּב:	וַיִּלָּךְ	וַיִּשְׁכַּב:	
and said	H3808	I called	again	and lay down	H1980	and lay down	
H559		H7121	H7725	H7901		H7901	

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