

messages to Samuel there at the Tabernacle. 4:1 And Samuel's words went out to all the people of Israel.

4) As Samuel was growing up, what kind of obstacles and influences did he have surround him? How do you think he avoided them being the primary influence on his life?

5) Verse 19 says, "The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and He let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground." How can we ensure that our words align with God's truth and carry weight?

6) Samuel's journey started with humble obedience in the temple. Why is it important to be faithful in small things before expecting bigger responsibilities?

### **Romans 12:1-2 NLT**

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

7) What does verse teach us about how our thinking impacts our behavior?

8) God continued to reveal Himself to Samuel. How can we create space in our lives for ongoing spiritual growth and deeper revelation from God?

9) In thinking about the future and your life; if you were to look back 10 or 20 years from now what are some of the things you would want to be able to say about your life? What are you doing now to make those things happen?

### **CHAIR TIME TOOLS**



Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

- 1) In thinking about your legacy, is there anything that you need to start or stop?
- 2) In thinking about your legacy, what do you want to be able to say about yourself 20 years from now? What kind of person do you want to be?
- 3) Take some time this week to reach out to a friend who models the kind of character that you want and encourage them.

## **Here I Am**

Pastor Craig Sweeney | February 23, 2025

**Thread:** Lifelong choices have lifelong impact.

*"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 ESV**

*"And the word of Samuel came to all Israel."* **1 Samuel 4:1 ESV**

**"And Samuel grew..."**

- Physically older.
- Spiritually maturing and gaining strength.
  - God revealed Himself to Samuel because he sought God. Pursued Him with: TIME—TALENTS—TREASURE.
- The people recognized it.

**"...the Lord was with him..."**

- Because Samuel made himself available to God.
  - In posture
  - *"Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. Then he said, 'I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven."* **Matthew 18:2 – 4 NLT**
  - *"I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.' Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them."* **Mark 10:15–16 NLT**

**Because Samuel stayed in step with The Lord.**

- Kept his heart and mind clean
  - Did not engage in the things that required innocence as payment.  
*What if I have? What is left for me?*

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”* **Romans 12:2 NLT**

### **Samuel gives us the O. T. version of this verse.**

*“And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, ‘If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you and direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.’ So the people of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroth, and they served the Lord only.”* **1 Samuel 7:3 – 4 ESV**

*“...If...”*

*“...put away...”*

*“...serve him...”* - What does God ask of me? Do that.

- Stop, start, exercise faith for.
- *“Then Samuel said, ‘Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you.’”* **1 Samuel 7:5 ESV**

### **Samuel walked with the Lord in his generation.**

#### **Challenge:**

- What does your life reveal about God to others?
- What are you doing to grow stronger?
- What obstacles need to be removed?
- Are you pursuing God with your TIME, TALENTS and TREASURE?

*For practical, cross-cultural Bible studies related to sermon topics, visit [DougBrittonBooks.com/resources](http://DougBrittonBooks.com/resources)*

## **Life Group Homework**

Here I Am

**Winter 2025 | Week 7**

Message Date 2/23/2025

### **MY STORY**



- 1) What’s the weirdest thing you’ve ever accidentally put in your mouth?
- 2) If you could only eat one color of food for the rest of your life, what color would it be?

### **QUICK REVIEW**



- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday’s message?

### **DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME**



#### **1 Samuel 3:11-4:1**

11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, “I am about to do a shocking thing in Israel. 12 I am going to carry out all my threats against Eli and his family, from beginning to end. 13 I have warned him that judgment is coming upon his family forever, because his sons are blaspheming God and he hasn’t disciplined them. 14 So I have vowed that the sins of Eli and his sons will never be forgiven by sacrifices or offerings.”

#### **Samuel Speaks for the Lord**

15 Samuel stayed in bed until morning, then got up and opened the doors of the Tabernacle as usual. He was afraid to tell Eli what the Lord had said to him. 16 But Eli called out to him, “Samuel, my son.”

“Here I am,” Samuel replied.

17 “What did the Lord say to you? Tell me everything. And may God strike you and even kill you if you hide anything from me!” 18 So Samuel told Eli everything; he didn’t hold anything back. “It is the Lord’s will,” Eli replied. “Let him do what he thinks best.”

19 As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable. 20 And all Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. 21 The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and gave