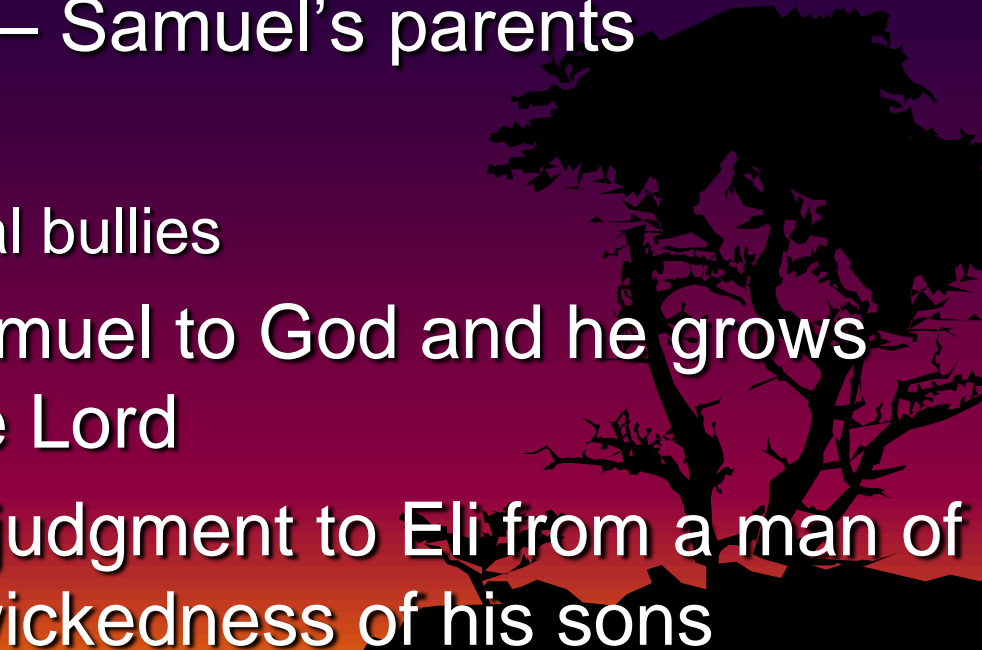


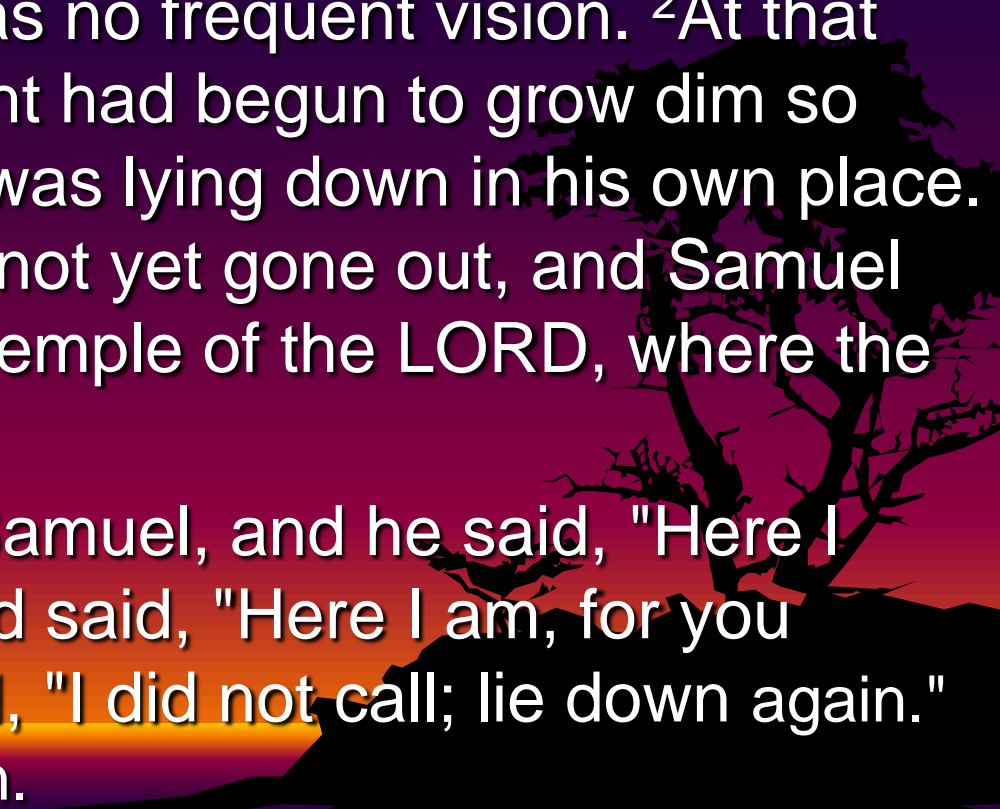
Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

Setting

- Israel is ruled by the judges
 - Everyone does what is right in his own eyes
 - Elkanah and Hannah – Samuel's parents
 - Eli – judge and priest
 - Wicked sons – immoral bullies
 - Hannah dedicates Samuel to God and he grows up in the House of the Lord
 - God sends a word of judgment to Eli from a man of God because of the wickedness of his sons
- 
- A silhouette of a tree with many branches is positioned on the right side of the slide. The background features a gradient from dark blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow glow at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The tree's shadow is cast onto the lower part of the background.

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

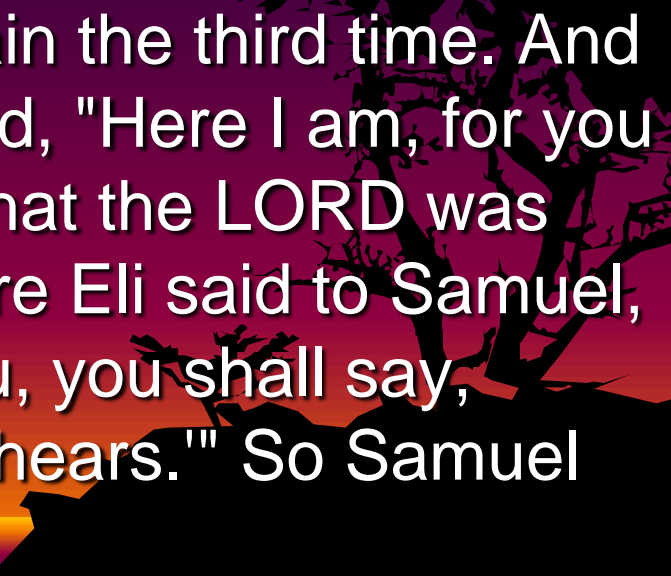
1 Samuel 3

- ¹Now the young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- ⁴Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.
- 
- A silhouette of a tree is visible on the right side of the slide, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise with orange and yellow light.

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

⁶And 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." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸And 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 young man. ⁹Therefore 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.

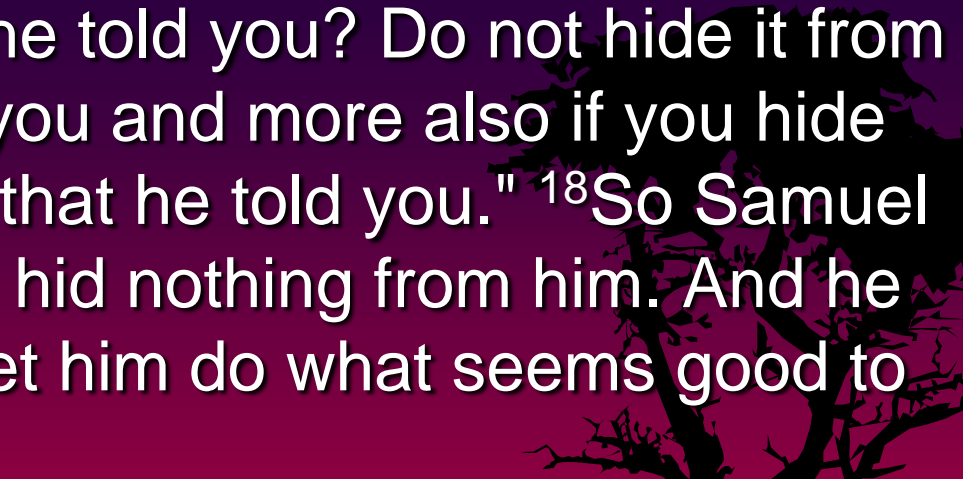
A silhouette of a large, leafy tree stands on the right side of the slide. The background is a gradient of colors from dark blue at the top to bright orange and yellow at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The tree's branches are intricate and spread out, with some leaves visible as small dark shapes.

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

¹⁰And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears." ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

¹⁵Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." ¹⁷And Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him."

A silhouette of a tree with many branches stands on a rocky outcrop. The background is a vibrant sunset with a gradient from deep blue at the top to bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The tree's shadow is cast onto the rock it sits upon.

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

¹⁹ And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD. ²¹ And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

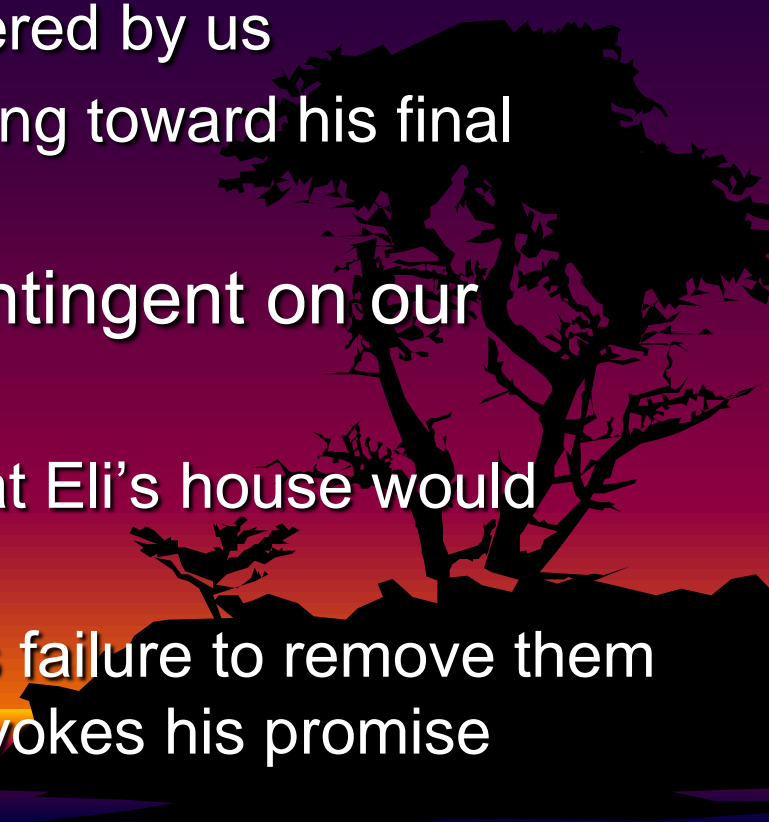
^{4:1} And the word of Samuel came to all Israel.



Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

Lessons from the Story

1. God raises up faithful and obedient leaders for himself and his people
 - God's purposes cannot be hindered by us
 - God is at work in our world moving toward his final outcome for it
2. God's promises are often contingent on our obedience
 - God promised in 1 Sam 2:30 that Eli's house would minister before him forever
 - Due to Eli's wicked sons and his failure to remove them from their priestly office, God revokes his promise



Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

Lessons from the Story

3. God speaks – Samuel listens

Position... Samuel is available and responsive

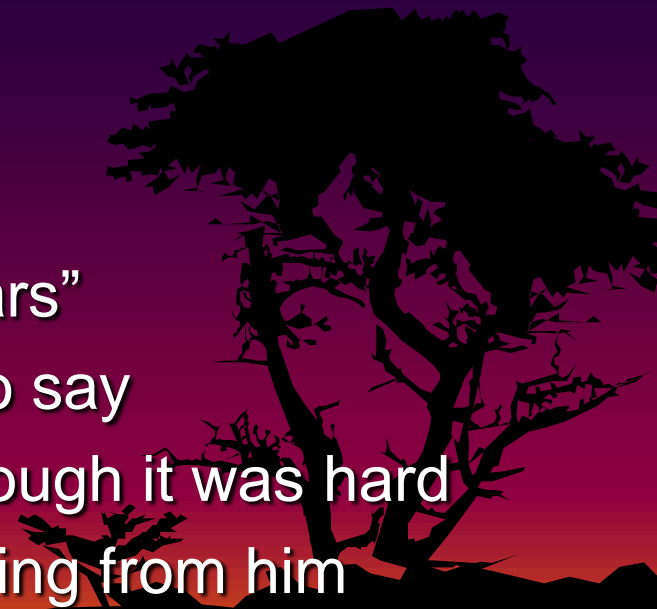
- He is already faithfully serving God

Posture... He is humble

- Responds immediately to Eli's call
- Responds to God, "your *servant* hears"
- He listens quietly to what God has to say

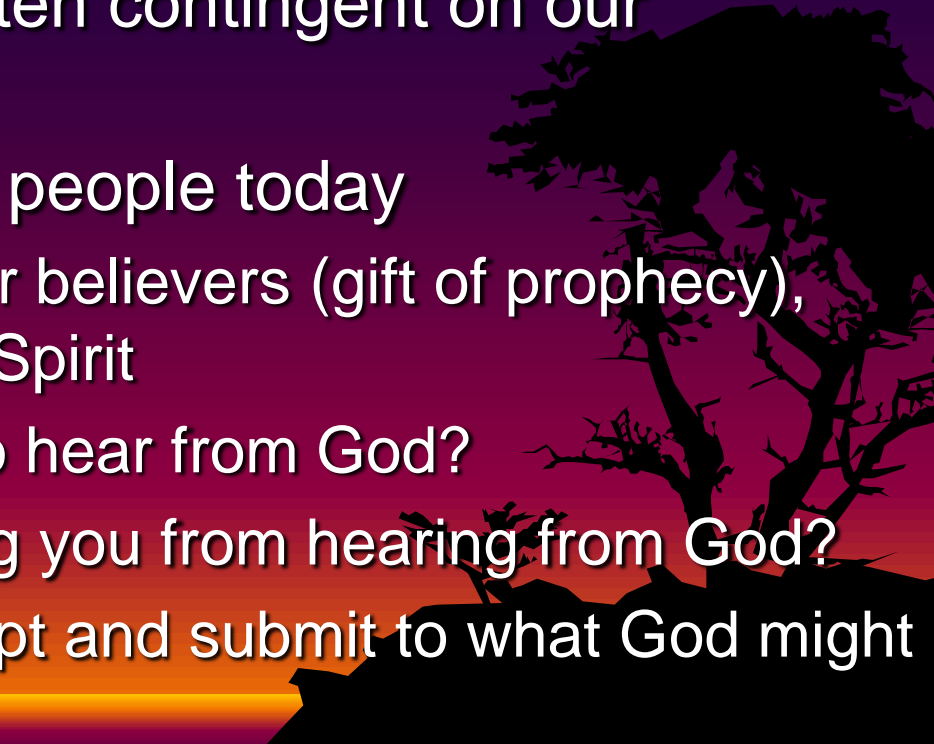
Submission... Accepts God's word though it was hard

- Did not want to tell Eli, but kept nothing from him
- A pattern throughout Scripture is that most people did not like what the true prophets of God had to say



Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

Lessons for Today

1. God raises up faithful and obedient leaders for himself and his people
 2. God's promises are often contingent on our obedience
 3. God still speaks to his people today
 - Bible, Preaching, Other believers (gift of prophecy), Prompting of the Holy Spirit
 - Are you in a position to hear from God?
 - Is your posture keeping you from hearing from God?
 - Are you willing to accept and submit to what God might want to say to you?
- 
- A silhouette of a large, leafy tree stands on the right side of the slide. The background is a gradient of colors from dark blue at the top to bright orange and yellow at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The tree's branches are detailed and spread out, and its reflection is visible in the dark foreground at the bottom.

Samuel Part 2: Are You Listening?

Samuel listened...

Are You Listening?

