

“Excuse Me, but Who’s Calling?”

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Today you get three stories for the price of one! And . . . each story has three parts!

PART I RECEIVING THE MESSAGE



Samuel is a young boy and Eli is an old priest who was nearly blind. They both served at the Temple of God in Jerusalem thousands of years ago. Suddenly, Samuel heard Eli call him and he ran to his master. “What do you want sir?” Samuel asked.

*Nathanael was finally getting a moment to rest under a fig tree when his friend Philip rushed up to him . . . about two thousand years ago. “Follow me!” Philip said to Nathanael. “I want you to meet this guy from Nazareth*

Margaret was in bed when the phone rang, just last week and the noise jarred her out of a sound sleep. She fumbled around for the phone, picked it up and said “Hullo?” then discovered she had the phone upside down. “Hello?” she tried again. “Hi, this is Mrs. Mawakasunga calling about the Homeless Shelter in Harrisburg?”

PART II MISUNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGE



“Somebody called me!” said Samuel to Eli. “It must have been you. Who else is here?”  
“I didn’t call you.” said the old blind priest “Go back and lay down.”

*“Get up!” said Philip. “Come meet this guy!”*  
*Why would I want to meet anyone from a town like Nazareth?” Nathanael asked Philip.*

What?” said Margaret. “You must have a wrong number. This is not the shelter.” And she closed her phone.

### PART III GETTING THE MESSAGE STRAIGHT



Samuel heard the call again. Again Eli said “Go back and lay down. It was not me.” But then, they figured out it was the LORD who was calling so on the fourth time, when Samuel heard the call, instead of going to Eli, Samuel knew to stand up and say “Speak LORD, for your servant is now finally listening.”

*“Come and See. I think this guy from Nazareth is the LORD! ” said Philip.*  
*When Nathanael and Philip came near, the LORD went to Nathanael and said “I saw you resting under that fig tree back there in Galilee even before Philip found you. Follow me and you will see great things!”*

Margaret’s phone rang again. This time she was more awake and she stood up to answer. “Hello!”  
“Hi Margaret. This is Mrs. Mawakasunga from Pastor Ed’s church. I’m sorry to call again. I think you misunderstood when I called a moment ago. I’m searching for volunteers to work at the Homeless Shelter in Harrisburg in February. I thought you might be interested in helping?”

“I have thought about it, but I don’t know how.” said Margaret. “I’ve never worked at a shelter before.”

Mrs. Mawakasunga and Margaret talked about 10 minutes. In the end, Margaret said she would do it if she could volunteer on the same night as Mrs. Mawakasunga so she would not be so nervous. Margaret got out her iPOD and put the date in her calendar.

GOD SENDS US MESSAGES.

HERE IS HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US. WHEN WE MISUNDERSTAND, HE CALLS AGAIN TO MAKE SURE WE GET THE MESSAGE STRAIGHT. THE END