

Wednesday - March 23

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him... The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

1 Samuel 3:7, 10 (NIV)

Every time I hear this story, I am always jealous of Samuel. How lucky was he to hear God speak directly to him? Have you ever heard God speak to you? I would say I never had, but was it that God was not speaking to me or was it that I was not listening?

I joined PUMC for fellowship, Bible study and friends. One thing I have loved is all the studies this church has to offer. I have attended the pastor bible study and book studies, I have helped with Vacation Bible School, and I have attended youth events. However, I never really felt like I knew God. I was always around hoping one day he would talk to me.

Then came the day when I opened up the Sunday bulletin and saw a new class being offered. The class was Disciple Fast Track, a 24-week commitment to studying the Bible. Many thoughts went through my head, "I've always wanted to read the whole Bible," "24-weeks is a long time," and "7 o'clock at night is late." Even though I had reservations, it was actually very easy for me to say yes and sign up for this study.

Now that we are about halfway through the study and finishing the Old Testament, I have realized that this was God speaking to me. He was telling me that if I really wanted to know him, this was my way to do it.

I was always waiting to hear God's voice out of the darkness telling me what to do, but this time his voice was in the form of a few words in a Sunday bulletin. Now I feel like I am beginning to understand my place in God's life. I am learning how we all came to be and how I can use my faith to learn and teach others. When you feel as though you cannot hear God, pause and look around because he may be speaking to you in a way you haven't been paying attention to.

Alyssa

Prayer: Oh Lord, we thank you for giving us this precious life. We acknowledge that without You and Your words we would stray from living a faithful life. We pray that You continue to speak to us in many ways so that we can spread Your name and message to all those who need it. Be with us this and every day. Amen.