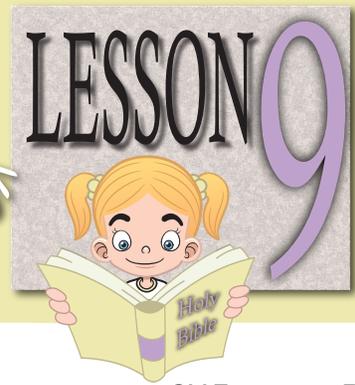


God Calls Young Samuel; Samuel Becomes a Great Leader of the Israelites

1 Samuel 2 and 3



Old Testament 5
Part 2: Samuel and King Saul

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 5 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Samuel 2:12-17,22-36; 3:1-21

MEMORY WORK:

“And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the Lord and men” (1 Samuel 2:26).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- [“God Calls Samuel”](#)
- [“Samuel’s Call”](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP’s Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Judges and King Saul](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “O.T. 5 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- “Summary of the Bible” from [“Kids Prep”](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens’ felt pieces
- Life of Samuel A Beka Flash-A-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*)
- Any visuals/teaching aids on being a good example

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must do as God asks me to do in His Word so that I can be a good leader and a good example to others.



LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION:

Why did Hannah pray to God? What did she ask for? What was her son's name? Where did she take her son when he was about three years old? What do you do when you hear your parents call you? Do you run quickly to see why they need you? What would you do if you heard someone calling you, but you didn't know whose voice it was? Samuel had grown into a big boy. He obeyed Eli the priest and helped him in the Tabernacle. One night he heard someone calling his name. Let's find out what he did.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Eli was an old man who had served as a priest and judge for Israel for many years. He had two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who were also serving as priests, but he had not taught his sons to respect God's authority and God's commandments. Eli's sons were two among many Israelites who chose to disobey God's commands.
2. God had spoken directly to different men in the Old Testament (since Adam), but there were many different times when He spoke to no one for many years. In the days of Eli and Samuel, it was rare for God to talk to humans (1 Samuel 3:1). But God chose to speak directly to Samuel—a young boy who was growing “in favor with the Lord and with men.”
3. One night, after Samuel had laid down, God called Samuel. Samuel, thinking that Eli had called him, got up and ran to him to see what he wanted. Eli sent him back to bed. God called him again, and again, Eli sent him back to bed. And a third time, God called Samuel, Samuel ran to Eli, and this time, Eli realized God was calling Samuel.
4. Eli told Samuel to answer God and pay close attention to Him—to listen carefully to what God said. So Samuel replied, “Speak, for your servant hears” (1 Samuel 3:10).
5. God's message to Samuel was sad news: Eli's sons would die because of their great sins against God, and Eli would suffer because he did not restrain (stop) them. God wants us to obey our parents, and He wants parents to train and discipline their children! Samuel lay in his bed until morning, afraid to tell Eli of his vision. The next morning, Eli pressed Samuel until Samuel told him what God had said. Eli accepted the message, knowing why God would punish his sons. He said, “It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good to Him.”
6. Eli continued to help Samuel learn and grow; Samuel “grew and the Lord was with him.” As he grew, he became wiser (learned to make good decisions). As he got older, he became known as a prophet of the Lord, and all the Israelites understood that He spoke God's Words. Samuel became a great leader for Israel.
7. Samuel was not very old when God began to speak to him; he may have been about 12 years old. But he listened to what God said, obeyed Him, and tried to lead the Israelites, based on God's Word. He was young, but he knew that he had a responsibility to follow and teach God's words. If he followed God's messages and taught them to others, he knew he could be a good leader and example.
8. God does not speak to us personally today when we're lying in our beds or sitting in the park or anywhere else. But God does speak to us through the Bible, and He still expects us to do the same things that Samuel did: listen, obey, grow, and be good leaders and examples.



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article “[How Could Samuel Have Inhabited the Temple?](#)” by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for a discussion about why the word “Temple” is used in places where “Tabernacle” seems more appropriate.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

Ages 2-5:

- “[God Calls Samuel Coloring Sheet](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Let the children use play phones to have brief conversations with you or with each other.
- Have the children stand in a line. Whisper a message in the first child’s ear, and let him share the message by whispering in the next person’s ear, and him whispering the message in the next person’s ear, and so forth. See if the message is the same when it gets back to you.

1st-2nd Graders:

- Play Tic-Tac-Toe or Hangman on the chalkboard with facts from this and previous lessons.
- Write specific facts or words from the story on index cards. Turn them face down on the floor. Let each student choose a card and tell what they remember about what’s on each card.
- On index cards, write the names of main characters from this story and others and hide them in various places around the room. Ask pointed questions about each character and give the children a chance to look around the room for the correct character’s name.
- “[God Calls Samuel Fill in the Blank](#)” (provided in activity sheets)

3rd-4th Graders:

- Play Tic-Tac-Toe or Hangman on the chalkboard with facts from this and previous lessons.
- Write specific facts or words from the story on index cards. Turn them face down on the floor. Let each student choose a card and tell what they remember about what’s on each card.
- “[God Calls Samuel Fill in the Blank](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- “[God Calls Samuel Multiple Choice](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Have the children read the following:
 - 1 Samuel 3-6 (as well as chapters 1-2 if they did not do so this quarter) [This could be assigned Sunday, to be completed by Wednesday.] Print out copies of the 1 Samuel 1-5 quiz from AP’s [Advanced Bible Reader](#) site for the children to take.
 - *Samuel! Samuel! The Story of God’s Call to Samuel*, Patricia L. Nederveld, CRC Publications
 - *The Lord Calls Samuel*, by Susan Hammond, Arch books (DISCLAIMER: on page before note to parents, change verbs to present tense)
 - *Samuel: The Boy Who Listened*, by Carine Mackenzie, Christian Focus Publications, (DISCLAIMER: depictions of the interior of the Temple should be of the Tabernacle instead)

SONGS:

“GOD CALLS SAMUEL”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “Are You Sleeping?”)

(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“SAMUEL’S CALL”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “Happy Birthday”)

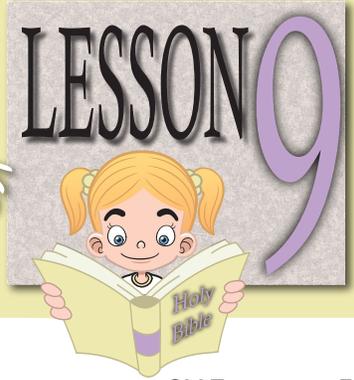
(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

*** IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.



God Calls Young Samuel; Samuel Becomes a Great Leader of the Israelites

1 Samuel 2-4



Old Testament 5
Part 2: Samuel and King Saul

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Old Testament 5 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Samuel 2:12-17,22-36; 3:1-21

MEMORY WORK:

“And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the Lord and men” (1 Samuel 2:26).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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- [“God Calls Samuel”](#)
- [“Samuel's Call”](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
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- Any visuals/teaching aids on being a good example

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must do as God asks me to do in His Word so that I can be a good leader and a good example to others.



INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 5 Bible Facts Flashcard](#) (provided under “O.T. 5 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson (see [O.T. 5 Review Questions](#) for example questions)

With older children, tell the story of the deaths of Eli and his sons (1 Samuel 4). Emphasize that they did not choose to listen to God and obey, but Samuel did.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning’s lesson.

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