



Summer Quarter, Week 8

A Boy who was Sleeping

Your Children Will Learn:

- ☉ God called Samuel
- ☉ Samuel listened to God

MEMORY VERSE FOR UNIT 11



**"Even children
show what they
are like by how
they act. you can
tell they are good
if what they do
is right."**

PROVERBS 20:11

Turn to Page 84 for
Memory Verse Center tips and
suggestions.

truth for your children

Today's Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 2:12; 3:1-10, 17-20a

Eli's sons were evil men. They didn't know the Lord. ...The boy Samuel served the Lord under the direction of Eli. In those days the Lord didn't give many messages to his people. He didn't give them many visions. One night Eli was lying down in his usual place. His eyes were becoming so weak he couldn't see very well. Samuel was lying down in the Lord's house. That's where the ark of God was kept. The lamp of God was still burning. The Lord called out to Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." He ran over to Eli. He said, "Here I am. You called out to me." But Eli said, "I didn't call you. Go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Again the Lord called out, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli. He said, "Here I am. You called out to me." "My son," Eli said, "I didn't call you. Go back and lie down." Samuel didn't know the Lord yet.

[continued on page 84]

truth for you...A Meditation for Leaders

The boy Samuel literally grew up in the church, learning about God and how to serve God from Eli the priest. Hannah made a commitment to dedicate her son to God. At first she was bitter because she was childless. But Hannah took that bitterness to God and turned it into a promise. She no longer wanted a child for herself, but allowed herself to see what God could do through that child. As a result, Samuel heard God calling him at a very young age. When Eli realized God was calling Samuel, he told him to say, "Speak. I am listening." Once his ears were open to God, they were never closed again. We should never limit the possibility of what God has in store for a child. As you are serving the children, pray for them and ask God to help you see what He sees in them. "I prayed for this child. The Lord has given me what I asked for. So now I am giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he'll be given to the Lord." (1 Samuel 1:27-28)



Truth for your children

Today's Bible Passage

1 Samuel 2:12; 3:1-10, 17-20a
continued from page 83

That's because the Lord still hadn't given him a message. The Lord called out to Samuel for the third time. Samuel got up and went to Eli. He said, "Here I am. You called out to me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down. If someone calls out to you again, say, 'Speak, Lord. I'm listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there. He called out, just as he had done the other times. He said, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel replied, "Speak. I'm listening." ... "What did the Lord say to you?" Eli asked. "Don't hide from me anything he told you. If you do, may God punish you greatly." So Samuel told him everything. He didn't hide anything from him. Then Eli said, "He is the Lord. Let him do what he thinks is best." As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him. He made everything Samuel said come true.

Leaders: Pray

Ten minutes before the children arrive, gather together to pray for your class time. Invite the Holy Spirit's presence and ask Him to fill you up.

Greet the children and Parents

**Greet one
another with
a kiss of love.**
Romans 16:16

Greet each child by name as they arrive. Learn the names of their parents, too.

Give children visiting for the first time a small gift such as a special sticker or a colorful bookmark. Welcome the children to your classroom and introduce yourself to their parents.

creative Activity centers 40 min.

Choose two or three activities from the Table-Top Activity Guide. The Activity Guide on page 85 has everything you need to provide hands-on, creative activities that directly reinforce the lesson. Make open-ended play centers (such as blocks, housekeeping and imaginative dress-up) available as well.

Memory verse center ... 3-5 min.

Practice the verse together every week during activity center time, small group time or before worship time.

Here is a tip: Sing the memory verse again to the tune you used last week. Sing it soft, sing it loud, sing it fast, sing it slow. See if the children can sing it by themselves.

**Even children
show what they are
like by how they act.
You can tell they
are good if what they
do is right."**
Proverbs 20:11

clean up and prepare for worship ... 5 min.

Time to worship! (10 min.)

- ☺ If you have a worship team to lead the children, gather everyone together to praise Jesus!
- ☺ If you lead worship, learn one or two simple songs. Allow time for children to share praises and prayers. Dance, sing, worship!



- ☺ Model worship for the children by being an active participant!



Table-top Activity Guide

Week 8: A Boy who was Sleeping

1. Listening tube:

Collect enough toilet paper or paper towel tubes so each child can have one. Spread white glue with a Q-tip on the tube. Wrap torn strips of colorful tissue paper around the tube. Use a Q-tip to press the tissue paper into the glue. The strips of paper can overlap one another. Set the tubes aside to dry. The children can hold the tubes up to their ears to listen better.

what's the Point?: Samuel didn't recognize the night time voice at first. But an experienced adult in his life was able to guide him into an amazing encounter with God! "Then Samuel replied, 'Speak. I'm listening.'" (1 Samuel 3:10b) Say to the children: **"God called Samuel; Samuel listened to God."**

Supplies:

- Toilet paper and paper towel tubes
- Colorful tissue paper
- White glue in small cups
- Q-tips

2. Samuel's Pillow:

The children can make a little pillow they can take home. Copy the pillow art in the **Pattern Pages**. Color it with markers and crayons. Staple it to another piece of paper the same size and stuff it with cotton balls. Please see the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

what's the Point?: While Samuel was asleep, God called his name. Samuel was just a little boy, but God had something important to tell him. Say to the children: **"God called Samuel; Samuel listened to God."**

Supplies:

- Pillow art from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Crayons and markers
- Colorful construction paper
- Cotton balls
- Stapler

Note to Leaders:

Please choose 2 or 3 table-top activities.

Most of the activities can be adapted for any age.

Have fun!

Let the children do it!

Don't forget to copy...



3. Samuel and Eli coloring Page:

Copy the coloring page from the **Pattern Pages** on white paper and cut it out along the bold outline. Color the picture with markers and crayons. Glue gauze on Eli's bed.

what's the Point?: Both Samuel and Eli had their sleep interrupted over and over again. But God was determined to get Samuel's attention! Say to the children: **"God called Samuel; Samuel listened to God."**

Supplies:

- Picture of Samuel and Eli from the **Pattern Pages** copied on white paper
- Rolled gauze bandages
- Markers and crayons
- Glue

4. Samuel and Eli Stick characters:

Copy the pictures of Samuel and Eli in the **Pattern Pages**. Cut them out and color them with markers and crayons. Use masking tape to attach them to craft sticks. Please see the **Pattern Pages** for complete directions.

what's the Point?: With these stick characters, the children can act out the story of Samuel hearing from God during a time when Eli did not hear from God at all. Say to the children: **"God called Samuel; Samuel listened to God."**

Supplies:

- Pictures of Samuel and Eli from the **Pattern Pages** copied on cardstock
- Markers and crayons
- Craft sticks
- Masking tape



Puppet Show Today!

Props You Will Need:

- Drape two small blankets over the curtain on opposite ends before the puppet show
- Picture of a lamp on a stick

Puppet Show script

Narrator: Hi boys and girls! We have been learning stories from the Bible that are all about children. We've learned about a little girl who was brave. She helped a man named Naaman. And we've learned about a little boy named Josiah. He became a king when he was only eight years old. Josiah loved God and worshiped Him. Well, for our story today, our friends Sam, Molly and Corey are going to come and do a puppet play for us. Let's call for them. Sam! Molly! Corey! **(Sam, Molly and Corey pop up.)**

Molly: Hi everyone! We're so happy to see all of you here!

Sam: Yeah Molly, I'm happy to see the children too. Aren't you Corey?

Corey: Oh Yes! I am so happy when I get to see all of you! **(point to children)** And you know what Sam?

Sam: What Corey?

Corey: We're children too! I think children are great! **(scratches head)** Hey! That means we're great!

Sam: Well, I know I am! **(hand on hip)**

Molly: That's right boys, we are great! But do you wanna know what's even greater? **(Sam and Corey nod their heads.)** What's even greater is that God loves children so much! Children are so important to God! And today, we are going to do a puppet play about a child. It's a story from the Bible, so it really happened. And guess what? The two of you get to do the puppet play all by yourself!

Sam: But Molly, you've always done the puppet plays with us. What will you be doing?

Molly: Well, I'll be watching you both from down below. **(points behind curtain)** Sam, you and Corey will be fine on your own. **(looks at children)** Boys and girls, our puppet play is about a boy named Samuel. Samuel lived in the worship house with Eli. Eli was the worship house leader. He taught Samuel all about God. Corey is going to pretend to be Eli and Sam will pretend to be Samuel. The boys will be right back! **(All puppets exit. Sam and Corey pop up.)**

Corey (as Eli): Samuel, please help me into bed. I've gotten so old and I can't see very well. **(Sam helps Corey lie down on one of the draped small blankets. Picture of a lamp on a stick pops up behind Corey.)** You are such a nice boy Samuel! You are learning so much about God and how to serve Him. You're doing a very good job! My own sons don't even know God! They do terrible things! But you listen to me and you obey me.

Sam (as Samuel): Gee thanks Eli! You have been very kind to me. You have taught me so much about God. And I am happy to serve God! Good night Eli. **(Corey begins snoring softly. Sam walks to the other draped small blanket and lies down and begins snoring softly.)**

God voice (loud whisper): Samuel.

Sam (groggily): Huh? Who's that? Eli must have called me! **(Sam jumps up and runs to Eli and wakes him up.)**

Sam: Eli, I'm right here. You called me.

Corey: Samuel, I didn't call for you. I think you must be dreaming. Now go back to bed. **(Sam walks back and lies down. They both begin snoring softly.)**

Puppet Show [cont.]

God voice (louder whisper): Samuel.

Sam (groggily): What? There he is calling for me again. I wonder what Eli wants? **(Sam jumps up and runs to Eli and wakes him up.)**

Sam: I'm right here Eli. You called for me so I came to see you.

Corey (groggily): Oy vey! My son I didn't call for you. Now, please go back and lie down. I am so sleepy. **(Sam walks back and lies down. They both begin snoring softly.)**

God voice (loudest whisper): Samuel.

Sam (sitting up): I know that was Eli. I'm coming Eli! **(Sam jumps up and runs to Eli and wakes him up.)** I'm right here Eli. You called for me.

Eli (sitting up): Samuel, my boy, I didn't call for you. Hmm, wait just a minute. That must be God calling your name! Now listen carefully to me Samuel. Go back to bed. The next time you hear someone calling for you say, "Speak God. I am listening." You got that? **(Corey lies down and snores, Sam walks back and lies down.)**

God voice (normal voice): Samuel! Samuel!

Sam (sitting up): There's that voice! I'm gonna say what Eli told me to. Speak God. I am listening. **(Sam exits and Corey continues to snore. Rooster crows and birds chirp. Corey sits up and Sam pops up.)**

Corey (sitting up): Samuel, I was right wasn't I? It was God that called for you. Please tell me everything God said. **(Corey walks over to Sam.)**

Sam: You were right Eli. It was God that called for me. And, He talked to me! To me! And I listened to everything God said.

Corey: Samuel, God called for you and you listened to Him. God is with You and has special plans for you. You must remember to always listen to God and do everything He asks you to do.

Sam: I will Eli. I promise I will. **(arm around Eli)** Now come on. I'm gonna tell you everything that God said. **(Sam and Corey exit.)**

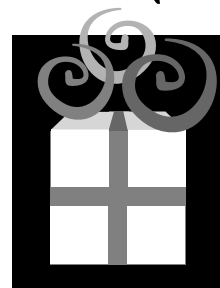
Go to "Wrap It Up!" in the sidebar.

Great Big Holy Bible

The text and pictures in the Great Big Holy Bible follow your Bible lesson closely.

You may choose to use it during the Bible lesson segment of your class, or use it at the end to reinforce your dramatic storytelling.

wrap it up!



Storyteller: If you are teaching 3's, simply repeat the points to them one more time. If you are teaching 4's

and 5's, repeat the points AND use these questions to help the children relate the story to their own lives.

Today we learned that:

☉ **God called Samuel.**

(Who did Samuel think was calling him? What did Eli tell Samuel to do?)

☉ **Samuel listened to God.**

(Did Samuel tell anybody what God said? Who did he tell?)



"SIMON SAYS: LISTEN LIKE SAMUEL"

Play a fun game of "Simon Says!"

☉ Say to the children, "In our story today, we learned that Samuel listened to God. In this game, you have to listen and do only what Simon says. Let's play our game!"

☉ "Simon says: 'Everybody spin in a circle.'" (Everyone start spinning.)

☉ Then say: "Everyone stop spinning." Remind the children to listen and keep spinning and only do what "Simon says."

☉ Other ideas for "Simon Says:"

- Stand on one foot
- Jump up and down
- High-five someone

☉ Continue playing as long as the children are interested.

Snack Time.....10 min.

Small Groups.....5-10 min.

How to Make it happen:

Divide the children into small groups.

1. Say: Today we learned that God called Samuel and that Samuel listened to God.

2. Ask: What was Samuel doing when God called him? Does God ever sleep? What did Samuel say when he realized that God was talking to him? Can God talk to you?

3. Pray: Dear God, thank You that You talked to Samuel. Please help me to listen when You talk to me. Amen.

The Purpose of Small Groups:

TO BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS WITH
THE CHILDREN

TO RECAP THE LESSON
OR POINTS

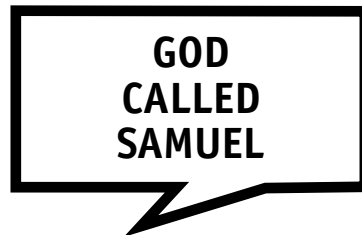
TO REVIEW THE
MEMORY VERSE
TOGETHER

Time to Go!

Dismiss the children to parents or guardians only! Keep our children safe!

Please Remember!

Photocopy "The Home Page" before church. Hand it to the parents when they pick up their children.



...see page 89



Summer Quarter, week 8

A Boy who was Sleeping

Your Children Will Learn: ☉ God called Samuel
☉ Samuel listened to God

MONDAY

Read & Do

Read 1 Samuel 2:12; 3:1-10, 17-20a. Ask your child, "Who did Samuel think was calling him? What did Eli tell him to do?"

TUESDAY

Art

Cut out a large half-circle shape from cardboard. Together with your child, color it with markers and crayons it so it looks like an ear. Then hold it up behind your own ear and see how much better you can hear. Talk about the Bible story and how God called Samuel and Samuel listened to God. Ask your child, "Who told Samuel it was God?"

WEDNESDAY

Pray & Praise

God called Samuel and Samuel listened to God. He learned to recognize God's voice. As a family, pray to God together and take the time to listen to Him. Praise God that He talks to children as well as adults.

THURSDAY

Out & About

Church is the best place to bring our children. While you are running errands with your child, talk about inviting your child's friends and neighbors to church. Take time to thank the leaders in your child's classroom for making your church a special place to bring friends.

FRIDAY

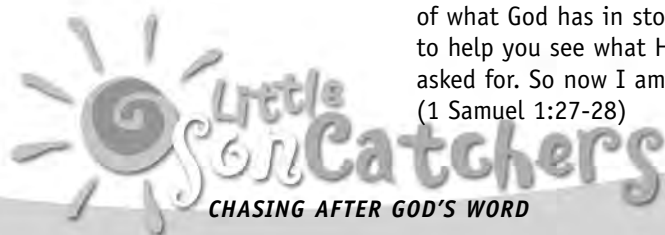
Play

Act out the Bible story as you read it out loud. Your child can pretend to be Samuel and you can pretend to be Eli. You can use real blankets and pillows and snore while you pretend to sleep. Your child can pop up when they hear Samuel's name called. Then they can run over to "Eli" and pretend to wake him up. On the third time, "Eli" can say, "That is God calling you, Samuel." Lay down on your pillows and talk about what happened next in the Bible story.

SATURDAY

Just for Parents...

The boy Samuel literally grew up in the church. He learned about God, and how to serve God from Eli the priest. Remember, Hannah made a commitment to dedicate her son to God. At first she was bitter because she was childless. But Hannah took that bitterness to God and turned it into a promise. She no longer wanted a child just for herself, but allowed herself to see what God could do through that child. As a result, Samuel heard God calling him at a very young age. When Eli realized that God was calling Samuel, he told him to say, "Speak. I am listening." Once his ears were open to God, they were never closed again. We should never limit the possibility of what God has in store for a child. As you are serving your children, pray for them and ask God to help you see what He sees in them. "I prayed for this child. The Lord has given me what I asked for. So now I am giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he'll be given to the Lord." (1 Samuel 1:27-28)



Memory verse
for unit 11

"Even children
show what
they are like
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tell they are
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Proverbs 20:11

Activity #2

Samuel's Pillow

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the pillow art on white paper. Cut out one per child.
- Cut colorful construction paper so it is the same size as the pillow art to make the back of the pillow.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the pillow art with markers and crayons.

- The children can stack the pillow art and the construction paper together. Help the children staple around three sides of the papers.
- The children can stuff the pillow with cotton balls.
- Finish stapling the remaining side of the pillow.

Cut out along the bold outline.



Activity #3

Samuel and Eli coloring page

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the picture of Samuel and Eli on white paper.
- Cut gauze bandages into pieces that are approximately 4" long.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the picture with markers and crayons.
- The children can glue the gauze on the picture, covering Eli with a blanket.

Cut out along the bold outline.



Activity #4

Samuel and Eli Stick Characters

BEFORE CLASS:

- Copy the stick characters on cardstock. Cut them out loosely along the dotted lines. Cut out one set per child.

DURING CLASS:

- The children can color the stick characters with markers and crayons.

- The children can use masking tape to attach the stick characters to craft sticks.

- Talk about the story while the children are working. The children can use the craft stick characters to act out the story.

Copy the stick characters on cardstock.

Use masking tape to attach the stick characters to craft sticks.

Cut them out loosely along the dotted lines.

