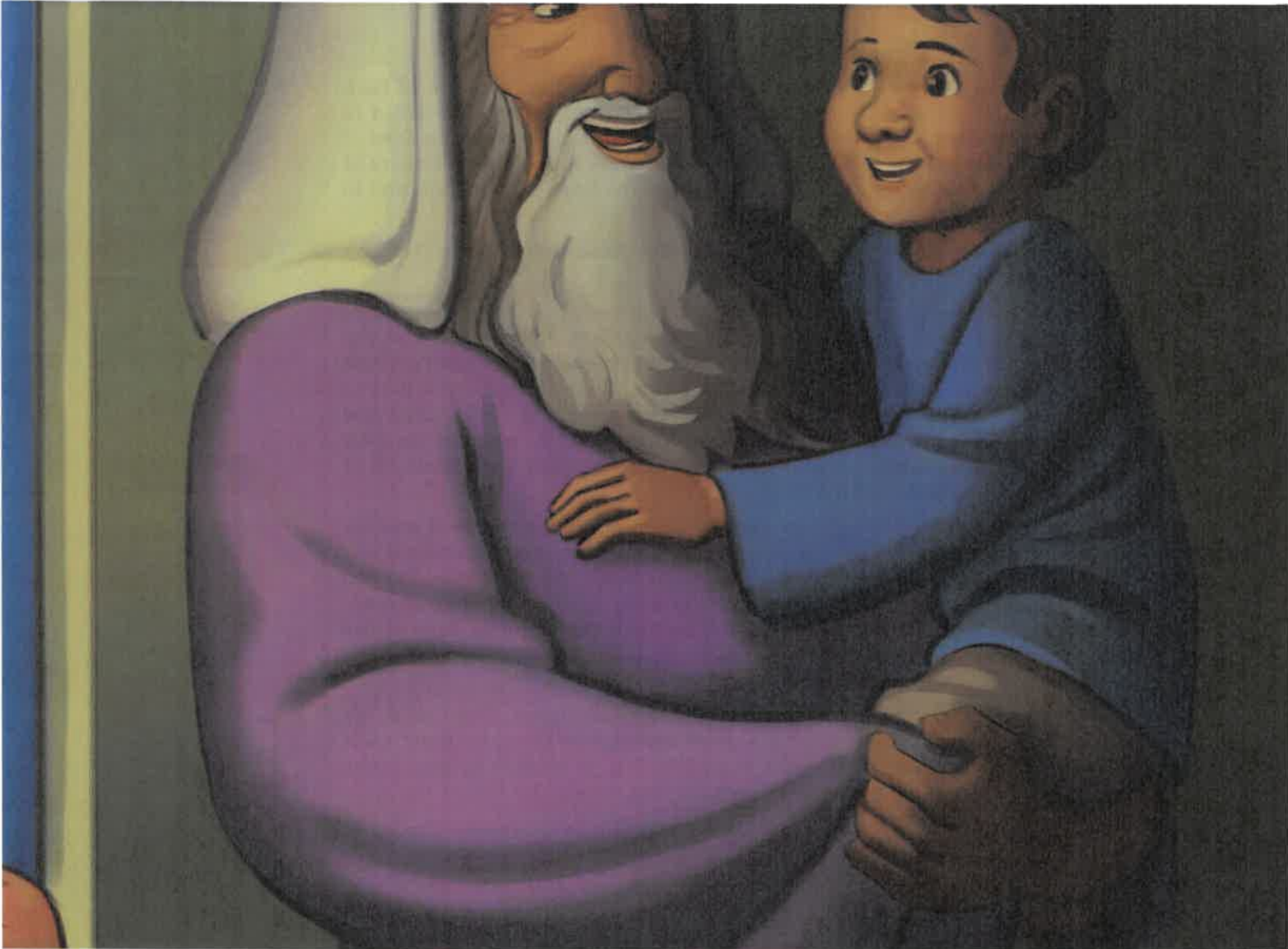


UNIT 9 | SESSION 2

# SAMUEL WAS BORN AND CALLED

1 SAMUEL 1-3

Pre K 6/15/2025



**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Like Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made.

**KEY PASSAGE:** My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

**STORY POINT:** Samuel heard God's voice.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## LEADER Bible Study

First Samuel 1–3 reveals God’s call of salvation and the response of faith that follows for all who belong to Him. In the dark of night, God called to Samuel and invited him to become His prophet who would shed the light of His words to His people. God’s call upon Samuel’s life is one that followers of Christ still respond to today: to trust in Him as the hope of salvation and to lead others to do the same.

How do we see God at work in Samuel’s life? How does trust in the Lord play a recurring role in this story?

Samuel was an answered prayer in his mother’s life. She spent years praying to God for a son whose life she promised to dedicate back to the Lord’s service. She allowed her precious son to grow up in the Lord’s house under the care and supervision of Eli the priest. It was Eli’s instructions to Samuel that prepared the young boy to receive the Word of the Lord and to share it as instructed. Though the call to repentance was not an easy message to share, Samuel did so and grew up to become a prophet. All of Israel knew he walked with the Lord.

From an early age, Samuel was brought up to recognize the Lord and His provision. From the prayers of Hannah to the instructions of Eli, Samuel was led in the ways of the Lord and responded to God’s call with open-handed faith. Samuel’s obedience flowed from his trust in the God of his salvation. He listened to God and dedicated his life to God’s service. Like Samuel, we can respond to God’s call by placing faith in Jesus, turning from sin, and proclaiming His truth to the world.

Consider the relationship between trust and obedience. Does your life reflect the truth that God’s ways are good and worthy of your trust? Lead boys and girls to see the fruit of a faith-filled life in service to God. Show them that, like Samuel, they can begin leading others to follow the Lord in faith.



### PREPARE

#### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



### WELCOME

#### 10–15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



### LEARN

#### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



### LOVE

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel

#### 30–40 MINUTES



### LIVE

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



### BONUS

#### 60–65 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers for an additional hour



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.

### WELCOME

#### Trace toys

- Big Picture Question Poster
- bulletin board paper, 5-6 feet long
- assorted baby toys (rattles, ball, blocks, ring stacker, shape sorter, teether)



### LEARN

#### Play a listening game

- rhythm instruments
- opaque tote bag

#### Tell the Bible story

- "Samuel Was Born and Called" video (optional)

#### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker



### LOVE

#### Match cards

- "Matching Cards" printable
- heavyweight paper

#### Match socks

- small laundry basket
- pairs of socks, various sizes and colors



### LIVE

#### Make a mini book

- pictures (houses, clothing items, people, animals, food items)

#### Missions Activity

- "Doug and Evelyn in Tanzania" printable

#### Snack and Transition

- hand sanitizer (optional)
- "Connect Mothers and Babies" activity page, 1 per child
- Big Picture Cards for Families



### BONUS

#### Say the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker

#### Make a key passage door hanger

- assorted stickers

#### Clean up

- paper towels
- spray bottle
- toy broom
- toy dustpan
- toy duster



## WELCOME Preschoolers

Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ Connection, story point, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

### TRACE TOYS

Position a preschool-height table just inside the classroom door. Tape bulletin board paper to the table's top, covering it completely. Lay the toys in the center of the table and arrange bins of washable markers. Display the Big Picture Question Poster near the table. As the preschoolers arrive, bend down and ask them to tell you who brought them to church today. Direct children to the table with the toys and markers. Invite them each to select a toy. Demonstrate for children how to hold a toy on the tabletop with one hand while tracing around its shape using a marker in the other hand. Encourage each child to trace more than one toy item. If time allows, guide children to color their traced shapes with markers.

**SAY** " I am so glad to see you. Who uses baby toys? [Allow responses.] Yes, babies do! During our Bible story time, we are going to hear about a woman named Hannah who wanted a baby. God cared for her and gave her a baby boy named Samuel. Then, Hannah took Samuel to the tabernacle where he served God. The boy grew up to become God's special messenger. Our big picture question and answer says, How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made. God showed love to Hannah by giving her a son, and He showed love to Samuel by calling him to be His special messenger. "

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Worship songs

\* Light of the world  
\* I will trust You God

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 PLAY A LISTENING GAME

Place all of the rhythm instruments in the tote bag. Stand in the group-time area, hold the bag up for children to see, and shake the bag. Invite children to come and see what you have. Greet preschoolers as they arrive to the group-time area and invite them to be seated. Instruct children to “turn on their listening ears” and point to your ears. Reach into the bag, play one of the rhythm instruments with your hand still in the bag, and invite children to guess what instrument you played. After the children have made a guess, show the instrument. Repeat the game with all instruments in the bag.

**SAY** “ Did you listen carefully? Were you able to guess the instruments? Today we are going to hear about someone named Samuel. We will hear about his birth, where he lived, and we are going to hear about a time in his life when he had to listen to someone very carefully. Now, point to your ears again and show me that you are listening as I tell the Bible story. ”



### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY *video*

Open you Bible to 1 Samuel 1–3. Tell the Bible story using the following summary. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.

#### SAMUEL WAS BORN AND CALLED

**SAY** “ Hannah wanted a baby very much. She prayed to God and promised that if she had a baby, she would let him serve God forever. God heard Hannah’s prayers and gave her a baby boy named Samuel.

When Samuel was big enough, Hannah took him to the tabernacle to serve God. Hannah visited Samuel every year and brought him new clothes.

Some time later, while Samuel was sleeping at night, God said Samuel’s name: “Samuel!”

Samuel thought Eli the priest was calling for him, but it was really God! God spoke again, “Samuel!”

Eli realized God was speaking to Samuel, so he told Samuel to listen.

Samuel said, “Speak, God. I’m listening.”

Samuel grew up, and God was with him. Samuel became a special messenger for God in Israel. ”

Christ Connection: Like Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

#### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY



Show children the Bible Story Picture Poster. Invite children to lay down and pretend to sleep, like Samuel was doing when God spoke. Say to the children that you are going to ask them several questions about the story. If they know the answer, they are to wake up by sitting up. Call upon an awakened child to answer. Questions to ask: What did Hannah want? (a baby) What did Hannah promise if God gave her a baby? (to let him serve God forever) What was Hannah's baby's name? (Samuel) Where did Hannah take Samuel when he was old enough to serve? (the tabernacle) What did Hannah give Samuel every year? (new clothes) Who spoke to Samuel while he was sleeping? (God) Did Samuel listen to God? (yes) What did Samuel grow up to do? (He became a special messenger of God.)

**SAY** “ Hannah prayed to God for a baby, and God answered her prayer. He gave her a baby boy. As she promised, she took Samuel to the tabernacle to serve God. Sometime later, **SAMUEL HEARD GOD’S VOICE** speaking to him. Just as Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go. ”

#### 4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “This Is the Way”:

My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
Supply all your needs, supply all your needs.  
My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
All your needs in Christ Jesus.



*“My God will supply” Song*

#### 5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE



Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Philippians 4:19. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Remove the marker and read the phrase aloud. Ask children to tell you how God heard Hannah's prayer and took care her. Invite children to stand up. Guide children to hop up and down together in place as they say the verse with you, saying each word of the verse on a hop.

**SAY** “ **SAMUEL HEARD GOD’S VOICE**, and listened when God spoke to him at night. Samuel grew up, and God was with him. Samuel became a special messenger for God. In the same way, as our key passage phrase tells us, ‘My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus.’ When we follow God, He will provide everything we need in Jesus. ”

#### 6 PRAY

Pray, praising God for sending us Jesus to supply our need for salvation.

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

# LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 MEASURE HEIGHT

Cut a piece of construction paper into several long strips. Tape the strips together creating one long strip. The strip should be taller than your tallest preschooler. Tape the long strip to the wall, making sure that the bottom of the strip is at the floor. Invite each child to stand against the strip of paper. Using a marker, mark where the top of each child's head hits and write the child's name at their mark.

**SAY** 🍌 Look at how tall you are getting! When Samuel was big enough, his mother Hannah took him to the tabernacle to serve God. A tabernacle is kind of like a church. Sometime later, while Samuel was sleeping at night, **SAMUEL HEARD GOD'S VOICE** and he listened. Like Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go. 🍌

### 2 MATCH CARDS

Print a copy of the "Matching Cards" printable onto heavyweight paper and cut apart. Invite children to play a matching game with you. Shuffle the cards and place them facedown in rows. Prompt a child to select two cards and to turn over those two cards to see if they match. If the cards match, the child can hold onto the pair. If cards do not match, guide the child to turn them back over and to give another child a turn. Play the game until all of the cards have found their matches.

**SAY** 🍌 Look at the pictures on our matching cards. What are some of the ways that God shows that He cares for us? [Allow responses.] The big picture question and answer says, **How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over all He made. We are God's creation. He shows His love by providing for us.** 🍌

### 3 MATCH SOCKS

Fill a small laundry basket with unmatched pairs of clean socks. Include socks of all sizes from babies to adult. Help preschoolers compare the lengths of socks and then find matches based on colors and patterns. Show children how to fold the pairs together. To extend the activity, suggest preschoolers sort the socks by color and size.

**SAY** 🍌 When Samuel's mother prayed for a son, she promised to give him to God. She took Samuel to the tabernacle to help the priest, Eli. Hannah loved Samuel, and she brought clothes to him. As Samuel grew each year, she made a bigger robe for him. As we grow each year, it is important that we learn more about God too. **SAMUEL HEARD GOD'S VOICE** and became a messenger, or prophet for God. We can be like Samuel and tell people what God is like and how God sent His Son, Jesus, to the world because He loves us. 🍌

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

#### 1 MAKE A MINI BOOK

Before the session, gather pictures of these kinds of items: food, people, animals, houses, and clothing. Fold a piece of construction paper in half creating a booklet for each child. Write the key passage phrase on the front of each book. Distribute pictures, booklets, glue sticks, and crayons. Invite children to make their own booklet by gluing pictures in them of things God gives us.

**SAY** *“The key passage phrase on the front of our booklet says, ‘My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19.’ We definitely need things like food and a home. But we also need Jesus. Jesus forgives our sins. Sin is anything that we do wrong. Forgiveness of our sin is our biggest need.”*

#### 2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Print and display a copy of the “Doug and Evelyn in Tanzania” printable. Distribute play dough to each preschooler. Provide craft sticks and plastic farm animals to use with the play dough. Suggest that preschoolers build a farm with pens for the animals and include some vegetables and fruits growing in a garden.

**SAY** *“It was not always easy for Doug and Evelyn to tell people about Jesus in Tanzania. But farming and teaching the people better ways to farm gave them the opportunity to tell many people about Jesus. The people learned they could trust the Knapps because Doug and Evelyn helped them with farming. [Lead a prayer.]”*

#### 3 SNACK AND TRANSITION



Post an Allergy Alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ Connection.

**SAY** *“Like Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go.”*

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.



## **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

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### **1 WHISPER MESSAGES**

Invite children to join you in the group time. As children arrive, prompt them to be seated. Say to the children that you want to test how good their hearing is. Tell them that you are going to whisper several messages. They need to listen carefully and repeat the messages back to you. Whisper statements such as “God loves you,” “God gives you what you need,” “Jesus helps us,” or “God answers prayers.”

### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 1–3. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story:

#### **SAMUEL WAS BORN AND CALLED**

- Hannah prayed and asked God for a baby. God answered Hannah’s prayer. He gave her a baby boy named Samuel. When Samuel was big enough, Hannah took him to the tabernacle to serve God. She visited him every year.
- Some time later, while Samuel was sleeping at night, God said Samuel’s name: “Samuel!” Samuel thought Eli the priest was calling for him, but it was really God! God spoke again, “Samuel!”
- Eli realized God was speaking to Samuel, so he told Samuel to listen. Samuel said, “Speak, God. I’m listening.” Samuel grew up, and God was with him. Samuel became a special messenger for God in Israel.

### **3 SING A SONG**

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “This Is the Way”:

My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
Supply all your needs, supply all your needs.  
My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
All your needs in Christ Jesus.

### **4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Philippians 4:19. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage phrase. Ask the children to tell you what Samuel was doing when God spoke to him. Remind the children that we can listen to God like Samuel did because Jesus supplies all our needs. Guide the children to lay down and pretend to snore. Lead them in saying the verse with you in between snores.

### **5 PRAY**

Pray, asking God to help us listen to Him and love others.



## BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

### 6 CARE FOR BABY DOLLS

Designate a place in the room as the nursery. Place baby dolls, doll care items, and any available classroom baby furniture in that area. Invite children to care for the baby dolls in the nursery. Guide them to feed, dress, rock, play with, and swaddle the baby dolls. As the children play, ask the children to tell you what they know about babies, what babies do, and how to care for them.

**SAY** “ Hannah wanted a baby very much. She prayed for a baby, and God heard her prayer. God gave her a baby named Samuel. When Samuel was old enough, Hannah took him to the tabernacle to serve God, as she had promised. One night, God spoke to Samuel, and **SAMUEL HEARD GOD’S VOICE**. Like Samuel listened to God, we can listen to Jesus, who always shows us the right way to go. ”

### 7 MAKE A KEY PASSAGE DOOR HANGER

Before the activity begins, cut a piece of construction paper in half from top to bottom creating two long strips. About two inches down from the top of each strip, cut horizontally halfway across the paper and then cut a large circle. This will create a hanger to hang the paper on a door handle. Write the key passage phrase on each child’s door hanger. Make a door hanger for each child. Distribute paper door hangers, assorted stickers, and markers. Invite children to decorate their door hangers. As children work, read the key passage phrase.

**SAY** “ When you get home from church today, you can hang these door hangers on your bedroom door to help remind you that God supplies all of your needs in Christ Jesus. Like when Samuel listened to God at night, these door hangers will remind you that we can listen to Jesus who always shows us the way to go. ”

### 8 CLEAN UP

Invite the children to help you clean the church classroom before going home. Distribute paper towels to the children. Lightly spray some water on tabletops, chairs, or other furniture items and invite the children to use their paper towels to clean by wiping away the water. Prompt children to dust, sweep, put away toys and resources, and to push in chairs.

**SAY** “ Thank you for helping me today. When Samuel was big enough, Hannah took him to the tabernacle to serve God. She had promised God that if He gave her a baby, she would let him serve God forever. When you helped me clean the room today, you were serving God too! God spoke to Samuel at the tabernacle, and **SAMUEL HEARD GOD’S VOICE**. ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.