



# 3PK

Sept 20-21, 2014

DATE

Samuel Listens to God

LESSON TITLE

I Samuel 3

WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants to talk to us.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

### **SCHEDULE for all sites:**

First 10 minutes of the service hour: Free play and relationship building time

Next 25 minutes: Large group teaching and worship

Last 30 minutes: Story review, small groups, activities/crafts, snack

If you finish early, have kids engage in activities (even group games) as parents arrive.

## tips

Keep in mind, kids might not be perfectly engaged during small group. Do your best to engage every kid, but don't let redirecting take the place of reviewing the story. You may be surprised at what they pick up...even if they appear to be disengaged!

## check-in/out

Tell parents to ask their kids to retell the story using their 2 popsicle sticks, cotton ball, and piece of felt.

## large group heads up

Today, we're hearing about how Samuel listened to (and heard from!) God! You'll have a chance to ask kids to listen to God during small group, too. In advance, think of ways to get kids to sit quietly and listen to God. You can use snack time, play a Kids' Club CD, or just sit in a circle. Consider what would work best with your group.



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line up.
- Tell kids that we're going to hear a story about a guy named Samuel who listened to God. Play "listening" Simon Says. Instead of leading the kids, **just tell them what to do and have them practice listening closely** (have another volunteer play too, so he/she can model your actions for the kids).
- Then play Simon Says while you stand still and give fun directives, like:
  - Jump up and down twice
  - Spin around
  - Do a jumping jack
  - Stand on one foot
  - Etc!

*If the music hasn't started yet, remind kids that when their listening ears are on, their mouths should be closed tight. Then practice that together! For fun, hop into Large Group like HOPS.*



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) recall the events of the story, particularly the repetition of God calling to Samuel

**Why?** If kids remember that God spoke to Samuel, hopefully they'll remember that he wants to speak to them!

**Tip:** If you want to use the props to review the story with kids before giving them their own props, great!

## small group

### REVIEW THE STORY

**\*\*First ask:** Did anybody hear from God during Large Group when we stopped to listen? (Let kids share if they want; assure them it's OK if they didn't.)

1. Who was the guy in today's story? (Samuel)
2. What was he ready to do (cue the kids by putting on listening ears)? (listen)
3. Where was Samuel when he heard somebody call his name? (in bed, sleeping)
4. Who did Samuel *think* was talking to him? (Eli)
5. Who was *really* talking to Samuel? (God!)
6. Who else does God want to talk to? (us!)
7. Why do you think God wants to talk to us? (*Tell kids you're going to throw out ideas. If it's a reason God might want to talk to us, they should put on their listening ears; then make these suggestions:*)
  - a. God wants to talk to us....
    - i. Because he loves us
    - ii. Because he wants us to know him like a friend
    - iii. Because he has things to say to us

### ACT OUT THE STORY

- Hand each kid **two popsicle sticks**. Help them draw a face (a simple smiley face will do) on one end of each. Now each kid has a "Samuel" and an "Eli." (*If three-year-olds struggle to draw, skip this step.*)
- Give each kid a **cotton ball** "pillow."
- Give each kid a **felt square** "blanket."
- Then act it out with the props. Lead kids in the following steps:
  - Put "Samuel" to bed. (Maybe he's even snoring.)
  - He wakes up to: "Samuel!"

(continue on the following page)



- Samuel runs over to Eli and says, “Here I am. I’m ready to listen.”
- Eli sends Samuel back to bed.
  - Do this sequence two more times for engaged groups.
- Eli says, “GOD is talking to you!”
- Then Samuel listens to God!
- Give each kid a **Ziploc bag** and put a **sticker** on the front to help them retell the story at home

**\*Pray with the kids, thanking God that he speaks to us. If you can get your group to listen for God for a few seconds, do it! Then ask them if they heard from him.**

*Extra time? Practice your own listening skills with some more Simon Says!*



## special notes

Use movement across your whole presenting area to engage kids. Decide where you want Samuel's "bed" to be. Make sure you have to "run" as far as possible to get to Eli. The more dramatic your movements, the more engaged kids will be. Don't be afraid to be silly!

## presenter tips

Show 'em the Word! Cut and tape parts of the script into the kids' Bible in the props box. This will allow you to show the kids where you're getting the lesson from - and remind you of your lines at the same time! We want kids to know these truths are grounded in the Bible.

## script

**Presenter:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kid's Club. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today Kids' Club.

**Video: HOPS 1 Have Fun!** (*about 1 minute*)

Wow, I can't wait to have some fun in Kids' Club today. Before we hear our story, can I see a big thumbs up from everybody who's ready to have some fun? (Let kids respond.) Great job! Now I think we're ready to hear God's story.

### REVIEW

**Presenter:** (holding up the **Bible** for kids to see) This is where we can read about God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important. It's God's Rescue plan.

Remember how God made the whole world and everything was good? The world was perfect! Give me a smile and a thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone): But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sadness and death came into the world... Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond) This was *really* sad.

But even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God...God loved them anyway! And he planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—can be close to God again.

### INTRO: YOU HEAR WHEN YOU LISTEN

One of the ways we can be close to someone is by listening when they talk. Let's practice. I'm going to say, "Hey kids!" and you guys say, "I'm listening" and put on your listening ears (model for the kids). Ready? "Hey kids!" (Let them respond.) Wow, you guys are awesome listeners! Now you're ready to hear what I'm going to say!



### script continued

Let's try it once more: "Hey kids!" (Let them respond.) Great! When you're listening, you can hear people. And today, we're going to hear about a guy who listened (make a motion with your ears)—so he could hear *God*!

His name was Samuel. Can you guys say, "Samuel?" (Let kids say "Samuel.") Now, to tell his story, I'm going to need some help. Every time I say "Samuel was ready to listen" I want you guys to—quick—put on your listening ears. Ready? Let's practice: "Samuel was ready to listen!" (Let kids put on listening ears.) OK, I think you guys can do this!

### GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL ONCE

Samuel lived with a guy named Eli. Eli wasn't Samuel's dad, but he was taking care of him. And they lived in the same house. Eli was teaching Samuel how to follow God.

One night, Samuel went to bed. (Lay down with the **pillow** and **blanket**.) Then God called to Samuel! He said (use your microphone to make a booming voice, if you want): "Samuel!"

Well, Samuel thought *Eli* was calling to him! So he got up (spring up), went running to Eli's room (pretend to run), and said, "Here I am!" Samuel was ready to listen! (Let kids put on listening ears.)

But guess what?! Eli said: "I wasn't calling to you...go back to bed!"

### GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL A SECOND TIME

So Samuel went back to bed. (Lie down and pretend to be asleep.) A second time, God called out to Samuel and said (use your microphone): "Samuel."

*Again*, Samuel thought *Eli* was calling to him! So he got up (spring up), went running to Eli's room (pretend to run), and said, "Here I am!" Samuel was ready to listen! (Let kids put on listening ears.)

But just like last time, Eli said: (use a deep voice): "I wasn't calling to you...go back to bed!"

### GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL A THIRD TIME

Well, Samuel went back to bed. (Lay down and pretend to be asleep.) And for the **THIRD** time, he heard his name (use your microphone): "Samuel."

He got up (spring up) one last time, went to Eli's room (pretend to run) one last time, and said, "Here I am!" one last time. Samuel was ready to listen! (Let kids put on listening ears.)

This time, Eli realized that GOD was the one calling Samuel. Eli said, "Next time, say, 'Speak Lord! For your servant is listening.'"



script continued

### **SAMUEL LISTENS (AND HEARS FROM GOD!)**

So Samuel went back to bed and when he heard his name again, he said, “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.” Samuel was ready to listen! (Let kids put on listening ears).

And guess what, because Samuel was ready to listen (put on listening ears), he got to hear from GOD. Wow, that’s pretty cool, isn’t it?

And guess what? We can all hear from God if we decide we’re ready to listen. We might not hear him talk out loud, but sometimes he just brings a word or picture to our mind—and we know it’s from him! (*Give a personal example of a time you heard from God.*) God wants to talk to you too!

Let’s pray together now, and thank God that he talks to us. (Pray, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases).

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for talking to Samuel. Thanks for talking to me. I’m ready to listen. Let’s listen for a few seconds. (Take a few seconds of quiet, as many as appropriate from your group but probably between 5 and 30 seconds.) Thanks, God! Aaaaaa-MEN.

### **WORSHIP**

Now let’s stand up! (Let kids stand.) Let’s dance and sing to thank God for speaking to us.

**Song: Be Strong**

**Song: King of the Jungle**

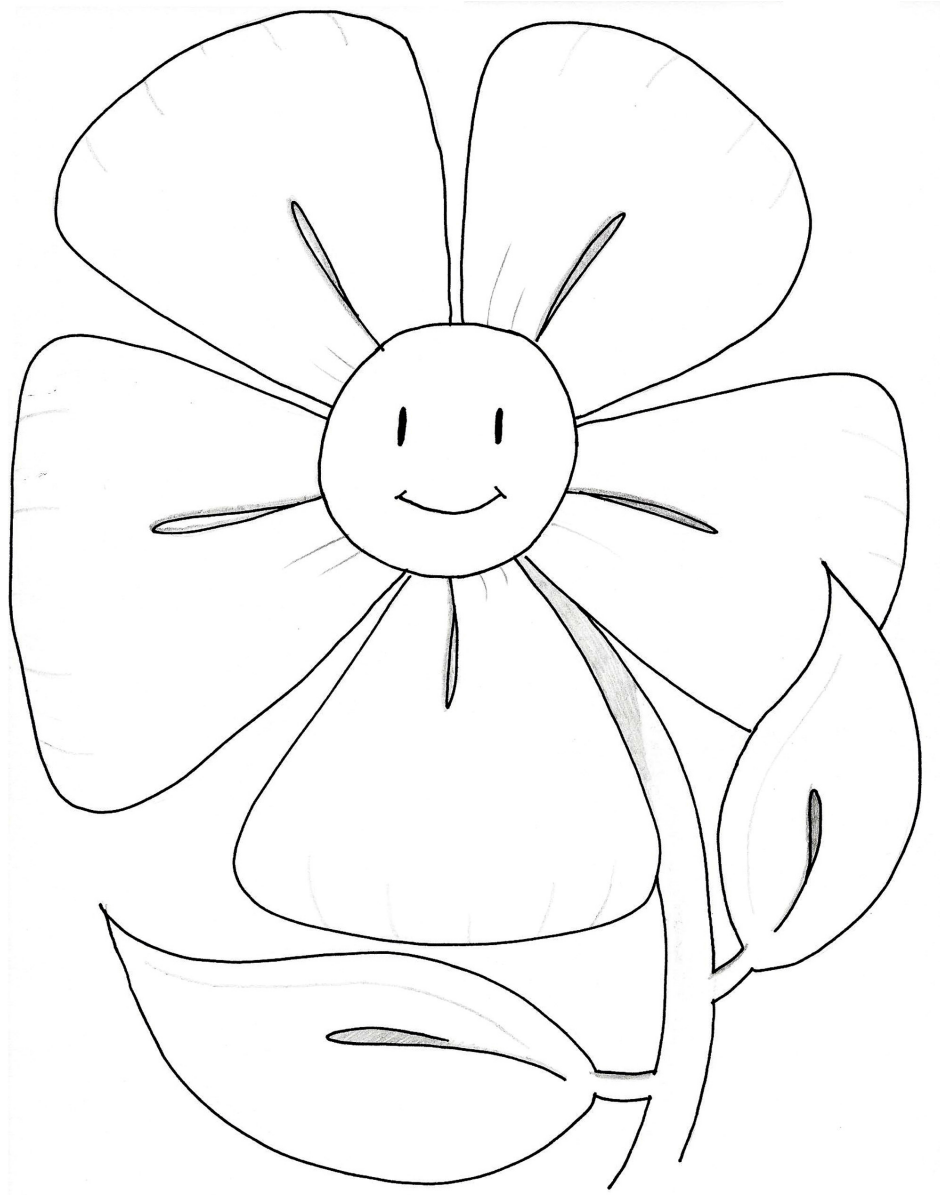
Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop to their groups.)





**script continued**

name



# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

none

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## small group supplies

### Per kid

Coloring pages

Cotton ball

2 popsicle sticks

1 piece of felt or material per kid (2"x2" or larger)

Ziploc bag

Sticker label (Avery 6874)

### Per group

markers

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## large group supplies

Bible

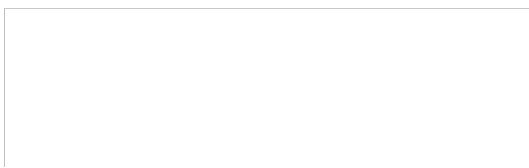
Pillow

Blanket

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## a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: HOPS 1
3. Song: Be Strong
4. Song: King of the Jungle



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## connect questions

Tell me about Samuel.

Why does God want to speak to us?

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## parent page

Daily Talk Starters printed separately