



# Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup>

September 12-13, 2015

DATE

Samuel

LESSON TITLE

I Samuel 3; Phil 4:13

WHERE TO FIND IT

God speaks.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (15 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

Today is all about listening to God. To prepare, think of a few different ways God has spoken to you. Be prepared to share those with kids.

## check-in/out

Kids have "Join the Team" stickers this weekend. Make sure they show those to the adult who picks them up!

## large group heads up

Today, we'll talk about how to listen to God. Samuel learned to hear God's voice...and follow him. But hearing from God can sound daunting. Read I Samuel 3:1-10 ahead of time and pray about how to communicate it to kids. And remember, God speaks to us each differently—we have to learn to hear his voice *and* believe he wants to speak to us!



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### **RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT**

*\*Play as a whole group*

- Line kids up against the back wall (or the longest wall).
- One volunteer is "it." When he/she says "green light" and holds up this **GREEN piece of paper**, kids should take **GIANT** steps toward the leader as he/she turns to face away from the kids.
- As soon as the leader says "red light" and holds up the **RED piece of paper**, he/she whirls around to face the kids—and kids must freeze. If the leader catches anybody moving, he/she must go back to the wall and start over.
- Once somebody reaches you, he/she is "it" if they want to be.
- **Break into small groups and discuss:**
  - How did you win this game? (listen and obey!)
  - Tell me about a time you listened to somebody and obeyed.

**Before you go to Large Group, you can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) understand that God wants to speak to us and (2) identify ways God may speak

**Why?** Listening can be tough. It takes practice to recognize God's voice—and faith to believe God will speak!

**Tip:** Some kids will struggle to hear from God. Remind them that they can keep asking God to speak to them. Also, anytime they want to be reminded of what God says, they can read the Bible.

## small group

### REVIEW THE STORY

1. In today's story, why did Samuel think that *Eli* was calling his name? (he hadn't heard God speak before)
2. What did God say to Samuel? (his name)
3. What did Samuel do when he realized God was speaking? (he said "Speak, God. Your servant is listening.")
4. What are some ways God speaks to us? (through the Bible, prayer, a word or picture in our thoughts, an idea to help somebody else, nature)
5. Did anybody hear from God during Large Group? You can share if you want!
6. Why does God want to speak to us? (answers will vary)

### MAKE IT PERSONAL

**We're creating listening ears to remember to listen to God.**

- Give each kids **one left ear** and **one right ear** and a **pipe cleaner**.
- They can color the ears with **markers**.
- As kids color, help them attach the ears to each end of the pipe cleaner by poking the pipe cleaner through the piece of paper at the top.
- Once an ear is attached to each edge, bend it like a headband and wear it!
- With the ears on, ask kids to come up with one place they want to listen for God this week. It can be their room, the car, a favorite tree at a park they like, etc. Have them draw it on **a blank sheet of paper** if you need an additional activity.

**\*Pray together, thanking God that he wants to talk to us.**

**BEFORE KIDS LEAVE SMALL GROUP**, tell them that you love having them in Kids' Club. It's like being part of a big team or family that wants to learn more about God! Tell them that

(Continue on the following page)

they are a special part of the team—and that their parents or an adult who takes them can be a special part of the team too! Then give them a **“Join the Team” sticker** to wear.

*Give kids a **coloring page**. If you still have extra time, play Red Light Green Light again.*

## special notes

There's a chance for kids to sit and quietly listen to God today. Make the room dark and quiet and do what you can to make it a different environment than Connect Time or Small Group.

## presenter tips

Be honest about how God speaks to you—even if it's sometimes a struggle to hear his voice!

## script

### WELCOME AND INTRO (3 min.)

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here! The game you were just playing in Connect Time looked pretty fun. Can somebody tell me how you won the game? (Let kids respond.) That's right, you had to listen really carefully and obey right away.

Then you guys shared some other times you've done that. Has anybody listened and obeyed before? (Let 3-4 kids tell you about a time they've done that.) Wow, that's great. Today, we're going to talk about how God speaks to us. And if we listen and obey him, he'll talk to us more and more! Today, we're going to hear about the time God talked to a boy named Samuel.

### THE STORY OF SAMUEL (6 min.)

**(show picture of Samuel)** Long before Samuel was born, his mom Hannah wanted a son. She even told God that if he gave her a son, she would dedicate him to God so that he would follow God for his whole life. When God answered Hannah's prayer, she did what she promised. She sent Samuel to live with a priest named Eli so he could serve God.

So Samuel lived with Eli while he grew up. When he heard from God for the first time, it was in the middle of the night...and Samuel thought that *Eli* was calling out to him! Let's imagine it together....

**(click to show night slide)** OK, I want all of you guys to pretend you're Samuel. It's the middle of the night, and you're fast asleep. Pretend to be asleep. (Let kids pretend; you can make some snoring noises.) Suddenly, you hear your name: (in the microphone, create a booming voice as you say, "Samuel!"). You wake up (let kids stretch as if waking up), run to Eli (have them pump their arms as if running in place while seated) and say, "Here I am!" Can you guys say that? (Let kids say: here I am!) Eli said, "I didn't call you! Go back to bed."

So Samuel went back to bed. (Lead the kids in pretending to be asleep again.) Suddenly, he



### script continued

heard (in another booming voice): “Samuel!” Samuel woke up (let kids stretch as if waking up), ran to Eli (have them pump their arms as if running in place while seated) and said, “Here I am!” (Point at the kids to cue them to say: here I am!) But again, Eli said, “I didn’t call you! Go back to bed.”

So Samuel went back to bed. (Pretend to be asleep.) But guess what? All this happened again when Samuel heard “Samuel” a third time! This time though, Eli realized it was GOD talking to Samuel. He said, “If someone calls again, say ‘Speak Lord, your servant is listening.’”

So Samuel went back to bed. (Pretend to be asleep.) And when he heard “Samuel!” he said, “Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.” Can you guys say that with me? “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.” Good job!

### **GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL (5 min.)**

**(Click to turn off the night slide.)** Once Samuel listened to God, God spoke to him! He told Samuel to give Eli a message. And do you think Samuel obeyed? (Let kids say: yes!) Yes, he sure did! Because Samuel listened to God and obeyed, God gave Samuel many more messages to share with his family. And Samuel did! In fact, listening to God became Samuel’s *job*.

To help us understand this story a little bit better, let’s watch the video version. As you watch, imagine how Samuel felt when God called his name!

### **Video: Young Samuel (about 2:30)**

Wow, how do you think Samuel felt when God called his name? (Let kids respond.) Yes! I bet he felt scared, then excited. As Samuel grew up, he got to know God’s voice well by listening to him.

### **RESPONSE: LISTEN TO GOD (AND OBEY) (6 min.)**

And guess what?? We can listen to God to! He wants to speak to US. He might give us a message for someone else or tell us how much he loves us or tell us one way he wants us to obey.

But here’s the thing: we have to listen carefully for God’s voice. It doesn’t always sound loud, like it did for Samuel. Sometimes God puts an idea in our head...or we see a picture in our mind. Sometimes God talks to me by (*share a personal example of a way God speaks to you*). And *everything* in the Bible is God’s word!

To hear God’s voice, we need to learn what he sounds like by spending time being quiet and listening to him. Let’s practice that right now. Are you guys ready? Lie down and quietly listen to the video. You’re going to get a chance to talk to God right now!

### **Video: Take A Minute: Listen (4:30, but feel free to stop it early if this video is too challenging for your particular group of kids)**



### script continued

#### **VERSE AND PRAYER (1 min.)**

That was wonderful! I'm so glad God speaks to us. And if you didn't get to hear from God, that's OK. Just sit and listen to him another time this week. But we can all hear from God right now, by learning a new Bible verse for this month. This verse is from the book of Philippians. It says:

**SLIDE: Philippians 4:13: For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.**

Let's say that together a couple times (lead kids in repeating it). Great job! And remember, THE BIBLE is God's word. So God just spoke to all of us!

Does somebody want to come pray for us and ask God to speak to us? (Let one volunteer come pray.)

#### **WORSHIP (6 min.)**

Now let's worship God by telling him we will listen to him. Both of these songs talk about that!

**Music Video: Listen**

**Song: Before I Go**

*\*Dismiss kids to small groups*



**script continued**

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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

### Per Room

- 1 red sheet of paper
- 1 green sheet of paper

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## small group supplies

### Per kid

- 1 pipe cleaner
- 1 left ear image
- 1 right ear image
- 1 blank sheet of paper

### Per group

- Markers
- 1 Bible

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## large group supplies

- Bible

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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. Image: Samuel
3. Slide: Night sky image with sounds
4. Video: Young Samuel  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHStDjHxr0Q&app=desktop>)
5. Video: Take A Minute / Listen  
(<https://vimeo.com/104309273>)
6. SLIDE: Philippians 4:13: For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.
7. Music Video: Listen  
(<https://vimeo.com/107752866>)

8. Music Video: Before I Go

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## connect questions

- Tell me about Samuel.
- How can we listen to God?

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## parent page