

September 10-11, 2016

DATE

Samuel

LESSON TITLE

1 Samuel 3; 1 Thessalonians 5:17

WHERE TO FIND IT

God talks to us.

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Snack and Small Group

tips

Pray with your team, and invite God into your time in Kids' Club! It's okay if the kids see you praying before the hour. In fact, it sets a good example for them. So gather your other volunteers for a few minutes when you arrive and pray—it could be the most important thing you do to prepare!

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them to retell today's story with their props!

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! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line up.
- Say this phrase before each of the following silly actions: *“If you can hear my voice...”*
 - Hop up and down
 - Touch your nose
 - Pat your head
 - Pat your belly
 - Give yourself a hug
 - Sit down
 - Stand up
 - Wiggle your whole body
 - Bend over and touch your toes
 - Reach up to the ceiling
 - Pretend to flap your wings
- If you have time, you can come up with as many actions as you want until it’s time to go into Large Group!

As you walk into Large Group, encourage kids to put on their listening ears! Remind them that HOPS will be showing us how we should act in Large Group, so we have to listen!



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) Understand that God spoke to Samuel, and Samuel listened, and (2) recognize that God wants to speak to us too!

Why? We can all listen to God, because he wants to speak to each one of us no matter how old we are!

Tip: It might help to use the props to review the story with kids **before** giving them their own props.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Who was the guy in today's story? (Samuel.)
2. Where was Samuel when he heard somebody call his name? (In bed, sleeping.)
3. Who did Samuel think was talking to him at first? (Eli.)
4. Who was really talking to Samuel? (God!)
5. What was Samuel ready to do when he knew God was calling his name? (Cue the kids by putting on listening ears—Listen!)
6. Who else does God want to talk to? (Us!)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid **two Popsicle sticks**.
- Help them draw a face on one end of each Popsicle stick (A simple smiley face will do. They can add some clothes and hair too if they want!)
- 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**. This is the "pillow."
- Give each kid a **piece of fabric**. This is the "blanket."
- Now act the story out with props! Lead kids in the following steps:
 - Put "Samuel" to bed. (Add fun touches like pretending to snore, etc.)
 - Say, "Samuel!" and then wake Samuel up!
 - 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 if your group is engaged enough!*)
 - Eli says, "GOD is talking to you!"
 - Then Samuel listens to God! (Have kids put their "listening ears" on again!)

(Continued on next page.)

Extra time? Give kids a **coloring sheet**. After that, play the Connect Time game again, but with new actions: Say, "If you hear my voice...."

- Lay down on the ground
- Roll over
- Give a friend a hug
- Go find a chair and sit in it
- Put your chair away and stand up
- Raise your hands in the air
- Wiggle your whole body
- Sit down
- Stand up
- Sit down again
- Stand up again
- Do as many as you want!

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

There's no God's Story video today, so be sure to have fun acting out the story yourself. Luckily, there's a lot of repetition in today's story!

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review the beginning of God's story and rescue plan.

Notes:

- ***Click to play intro music.**
- **Say:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS.
- **Video: HOPS Obey your leaders!**
- **Say:** (Holding up the ***Bible***.) *This* is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this is the most important. Do you know what it's called? (Let kids respond "the Bible.") That's right, the Bible! It's God's Rescue plan. It shows us how He rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.
- **Say:** In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. He created the sun and the moon, the water and the land, the plants and the animals, and people like you and me! Everything was good. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)
- **Say:** But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and all the wrong things came into the world. Things like sadness and death. Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God, God loved them anyway! He planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve, and you and me, could be close to God again! Do you know who the Rescuer is? (Let kids say: Jesus!)

INTRO: SAMUEL

Main Goal: Understand what it means to listen, and introduce Samuel.

Notes:

- **Say:** 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.)
- **Say:** Ready? "Hey kids!" (Let them respond, "*I'm listening!*") Wow, you guys are awesome listeners! Now you're ready to hear what I'm going to say! Let's try it once more: "Hey kids!" (Let them respond, "*I'm listening!*")
- **(Click to show image of ear.)** When you're listening, you can hear people. And today, we're going to hear about a guy who listened, so he could hear God! His name was Samuel. Can you guys say, "Samuel?" (Let kids say "Samuel.") Good job!
- **Say:** 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

Main Goal: Act out how God spoke to Samuel the first time.

Notes:

- **Say:** 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 to follow God.
- **(Click to show image of nighttime.)** One night, Samuel went to bed. (Lay down.) Then God called to Samuel! He said (Use a deep voice in your microphone.) "**Samuel!**"
- **Say:** 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.)
- **Say:** But guess what?! Eli said: (Use your microphone.) "*I wasn't calling to you...go back to bed!*"

GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL A SECOND TIME

Main Goal: Act out God spoke to Samuel the second time.

- **Say:** So Samuel went back to bed. (Lie down and pretend to sleep.) A second time, God called out to Samuel and said (Use a deep voice in your microphone.) "**Samuel.**"
- **Say:** 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 like last time, Eli said (Use a deep voice.) "*I wasn't calling you...go back to bed!*"

GOD SPEAK TO SAMUEL A THIRD TIME

Main Goal: Act out how God spoke to Samuel a third time, and Samuel listens!

Notes:

- **Say:** Samuel went back to bed. (Lie down and pretend to be asleep.) And for the THIRD time, he heard his name (Use your microphone) “**Samuel.**”
- **Say:** He got up one last time (spring up), went to Eli’s room one last time (pretend to run), and said, “*Here I am!*” one last time. Samuel was ready to listen! (Let kids put on listening ears.)
- **Say:** This time, Eli realized that GOD was the one calling Samuel. So Eli told Samuel to say this if he heard God again: “Speak Lord! For your servant is listening.”

SAMUEL SPEAKS TO GOD

Main Goal: Understand how Samuel listened to God, and see that we can listen to God too!

Notes:

- **Say:** 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.)
- **Say:** And guess what? Because Samuel was ready to listen (Let kids put on listening ears.), he got to hear from GOD. That’s pretty amazing, isn’t it?
- **Say:** Do you think WE can hear from God too? (Let kids respond: Yes!) Yes! And do you think God wants to speak to us, just like he did to Samuel? (Let kids respond: Yes!) He sure does!
- **Say:** We can all hear from God if we decide we’re ready to listen. We might not hear Him talk out loud—sometimes he just brings a word or picture to our mind—and we know it’s from him! God LOVES to speak to us.

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Help kids interact through prayer and worship!

Notes:

- **Pray (Breaking it into small, repeatable phrases):** Dear God. We love you. Please speak to us. We want to listen! Aaaaa-men!
- **Set up worship:** Since God loves to speak to us, we should speak to him too! Let’s do that by singing out loud about how much we love him.
- **Music Video: Be Strong Take Courage**
- **Music Video: Whole Wide World**
- **Song: Deep and Wide**

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Speaking game - no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per group: Bible, markers

Per kid: Coloring page, 2 Popsicle sticks, 1 cotton ball, 1 piece of fabric (OT: IN-57/2504; each piece 3"x3")

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible

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 Obey your leaders! (<https://vimeo.com/99633580>)
3. Image: Ear
4. Image: Nighttime
5. Music Video: Be Strong Take Courage (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZFMgFre_c)
6. Music Video: Whole Wide World (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHvGLEmMWE>)
7. Song: Deep and Wide (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>songs with slides)

connect questions

Tell me about Samuel.

Who spoke to Samuel while he slept?

name

