



# 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

October 1-2, 2016

DATE

Samuel

LESSON TITLE

1 Samuel 3

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

Do your best to keep kids in Small Group until their parents pick them up. Even if kids are used to playing at the end of the hour, try to get into this rhythm, and even discuss it with your teammates so you're all on the same page. In the long run, it will improve everyone's experience!

## check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them about their Kids' Club invitation, and who they are going to give it to!

## large group heads up

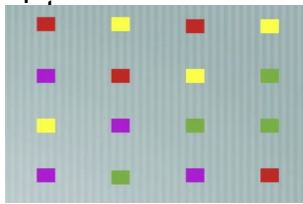
Today, we'll talk about how to listen to God...because he actively speaks to us! God speaks to each of us differently—but we have to learn to hear his voice, and then act on what he tells us. Today we'll see how Samuel learned to hear God's voice, and follow him.

## 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.*

### TEAM MEMORY GAME

- To **set up**:
  - Before the game starts, count how many kids you have, and then prepare enough **colored squares** so that there is one square for each kid. Then divide that number by 4. That's how much of each color you'll need. (For example, if you have 20 kids, you'll need 5 red, 5 yellow, 5 blue, and 5 green.)
  - Next, lay each colored square under an **upside down paper plate** on the floor of an open area, so that kids *can't* see the colors. Lay them all out in 4 lines; the order of the colors doesn't matter; they should be random, like this



- Once you're ready, divide kids into **4 teams**, and assign each team a color: Red, yellow, blue and green. Have the teams stand in lines next to the paper plates.
- Tell kids that under each plate is a color, and the goal of the game is to be the **first team to get all your colors**.
- When the leader says, "Go!" the first kid on each team will go to **one** of the plates, and flip it over:
  - If it's their team color, they can take it back to their team and sit down.
  - If it's not their color, or the color has already been taken, they have to flip the plate back over (so that you can't see the color) and go back to their team, standing at the back of the line.
- After the first kid on each team gets back, the next kid on that team can go look for a color to bring back. It's a race, so kids can go as soon as their teammate returns.
- Play until one of the teams gets all their colors!

### TALK ABOUT IT

- What ways did you have to pay attention during the game?
- What's something you have trouble paying attention to/focusing on in real life?

**Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. 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 how God spoke to Samuel, (2) recognize that Samuel had to learn how to listen and obey God and (3) listen to God and identify a way that he can use us

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

**Tip:** Not everything that pops into our heads is from God! Make sure you reiterate how important it is for us to make sure the words we hear from God are in line with his character. The lesson plan gives some practical ways to incorporate that discernment.

## 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—Samuel.)
3. What did Samuel do when he realized God was speaking? (He said "Speak, God. Your servant is listening." and then he started to obey God, and share what he heard with others.)
4. What are some ways God speaks to us? (Through the Bible, prayer/talking to God, a word or picture in our thoughts, an idea to help somebody else, through experiencing nature...)
5. Did anybody hear from God during Large Group? If you want to share, what did you hear?
6. How do we know something we hear in our head is from God? (Have kids share ideas. Here are ideas to help: If it lines up with what the Bible would say, if it's something Jesus would do, or even if it's something Jesus would do that you wouldn't have thought of on your own, it's probably from God. But he will NEVER ask us to do something that's unloving or out of his character.)

### MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Tell kids that for the next few weeks, we're going to talk about people who met God, and it will be a great chance to bring a friend who doesn't know Jesus yet!
- Give kids a quiet moment to **listen** to God, and see if he brings anyone to mind. After a minute, ask kids if they want to share with the group if God brought anyone to their mind, and how they want to ask them to come to Kids' Club.
- After that, hand each kid an **invitation** and set out **markers**.

(Continued on next page.)



- Tell kids to write that person's name on the invitation; someone they want to invite to Kids' Club so they can get to know Jesus. Then kids can give it to them this week/the next time they see them!
- Let kids decorate the invitation as well.

*Extra time? Play Telephone Telephone! Have kids sit a circle or line, and whisper a phrase to the first kid. Each kid then whispers it to the person next to them, until it gets to the last person. The last kid can say it out loud for the group to see how close it is to the original phrase.*

## special notes

God speaks in many unique ways and it takes time and practice to learn to hear his voice, even for adults! Help kids understand how God speaks by sharing ways *you* have heard him!

## presenter tips

Here's a link to one of today's videos:

Take a Minute / Listen:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMTus4NUK\\_0&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMTus4NUK_0&feature=youtu.be)

## script

### WELCOME AND INTRO

**Main Goal:** Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

#### Notes:

#### *\*Click to play intro music.*

- **Welcome:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here! How are you feeling after that Connect Time game? (Let kids respond.) Great job to our winning team, and to everyone else!
- **Say:** Raise your hand if you were the first person on your team to go? (Let kids respond.) Okay, so when you all went looking for a color, you had NO idea which colors were under those plates. You just had to randomly pick!
- **Ask:** But if you went after them, how was it easier for you to pick a color? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you probably saw some of the colors when the first kids went, so you knew which plates NOT to pick. It was basically one giant memory game, wasn't it?
- **Ask:** What would happen if you were just goofing off the whole time while waiting in line, and you weren't paying attention to the colors people were finding? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you'd have no idea which plates to turn over! You be just as blind as the first kids who went.
- **Say:** Today we're going to talk about some ways that God wants us to pay attention to *him*.
- **Ask:** Okay, funny question: have you guys ever held up a ball or a toy for an animal, and they pay such close attention to it, they can't look away? (Let kids respond.)

## WELCOME AND INTRO (Cont.)

**Main Goal:** Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

## INTRO: SAMUEL

**Main Goal:** Introduce Samuel, and why he grew up with Eli.

**Notes:**

- **Say:** Well let's watch some funny clips of kittens who are paying really close attention to their owners!
- **Video: Kitten Compilation**
- **Say:** That was pretty funny, but it actually shows something that we're going to talk about today! We're going to learn about how we need to pay really close attention to God, because he often speaks to us!

- **Say:** There was a guy named Samuel, and when he was young, his mom, Hannah, dedicated him to God. You see, she waited for a baby for a long time. So she told God that if he gave her a son, she would dedicate him to God. Then her son would follow God for his whole life.
- **Ask:** Have you all had to wait for something for a really long time? What was it? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** When God answered Hannah's prayer, she was so thankful to him, she did what she promised. She sent her son Samuel to live with a priest named Eli, so he could serve God.
- **Say:** Now, Eli lived in a place called the Lord's house, and it was sort of like what we would call a church today. It was a house where people went to talk to God.
- **Ask:** Has anyone ever helped you to follow God? Maybe it's someone who brings you to church, or a friend who invited you. Maybe there's someone who's told you about stories from the Bible? (Let kids respond.) Well that's what Eli did for Samuel. He helped him follow God.

## GOD SPEAKS TO SAMUEL

**Main Goal:** Watch a video and understand how God first spoke to Samuel.

**Notes:**

- **Say:** When Samuel was young, he was still getting to know God. He watched Eli and learned from him, but he hadn't really experienced God on his own yet.
- **Say:** We're going to watch a video about how Samuel experiences God, and actually hears him for the first time. As you watch, pay attention to what Samuel does once he realizes God is speaking!
- **Video: Young Samuel**
- **Say:** So what did Samuel say when he realized he was hearing God's voice, and not Eli's? (Let kids respond.) That's right, he said, "Yes God! Your servant is listening!" Which was Samuel's way of saying, "I'm here God! I'm listening!"

## SAMUEL LEARNS HOW TO LISTEN

**Main Goal:** Understand how Samuel kept mishearing God's voice because he wasn't really listening at first!

**Notes:**

- **Ask:** At first, why didn't Samuel realize it was God speaking? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he thought it was Eli! It's understandable: if you guys heard a voice in the middle of the night, who would *you* think it was? (Let kids respond.) Yep, maybe your parents or a sibling. And Samuel thought the same thing. That it must be a regular person's voice instead of God!
- **Say:** Even though Samuel didn't know what was going on at first, Eli helped him realize who was really calling his name. Once he realized it was God, he focused, and paid attention to what God said. How exactly did he focus? What did he DO? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he *listened* to God.
- **Say:** There's a lot of different ways to pay close attention to God, and one of the ways God wants us to do that is to listen to him when he speaks to us!

## SAMUEL HEARS GOD, AND SO CAN WE

**Main Goal:** See how Samuel learned to listen to God, and became a prophet so he could share it with others.

- **Say:** God spoke to Samuel a lot after that, and he shared what God said. Does anybody remember the word for someone who hears from God, and shares it with others? (Let kids respond.) A prophet! Back then, God spoke through prophets a lot. Here's a short clip about them.
- **Video: God's Story / Prophets (20 second clip)**
- **Ask:** So do we *still* HAVE to have prophets to hear from God? (Let kids respond.) Nope - he can talk to us directly! Since Jesus came and rescued us from all the wrong things in the world, we can all be close to God, and all talk to him ourselves. But remember, to hear him, we have to *listen*, and pay attention.

## LISTENING EXERCISE

**Main Goal:** Have some fun by letting kids guess different sounds, and help them understand that listening isn't always easy.

- **Say:** Let's listen to some sounds right now, and you try and yell out as fast as you can what you think they are! (Play the following sound clips and let kids guess them out loud.)
  - **Sound: Frogs**
  - **Sound: Fireworks**
  - **Sound: Construction Sounds / Bird**
- **Say:** Okay, that last one was kind of a trick. It sounded like a chainsaw, or a hammer, but it was actually....a bird that can mimic sounds! You would have to listen really, really closely to figure that out!

## HEARING AND DOING

**Main Goal:** Instruct kids to do some physical movements to illustrate that obedience is an active part of listening.

**Notes:**

- **Say:** Now we might think of listening as something we just sit back and do without really thinking. But there's another important part to it. To show this, let's do a little game. I'm going to tell you something, and you have to listen as closely as you can to my instructions. (Let kids respond after each of the following instructions.)
  - Stand up.
  - Give someone a high five.
  - Spin in a circle.
  - Do 5 jumping jacks.
  - Stand on your toes.
  - Strike a silly pose.
  - Sit down.
- **Say:** Okay, good job listening! Now, what did you have to do to actually listen to me? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you had to DO some funny actions. You didn't just hear what I said, you had to obey too.
- **Say:** That's what real listening is, and that's what Samuel did when he heard from God. He didn't just hear God, and then ignore him. He actually did what God told him to do! There's a couple books in the Bible named after Samuel where you can read more about how he obeyed God.

## RESPONSE TIME AND PRAYER

**Main Goal:** Let kids actively respond to the Holy Spirit by interacting with a video about listening to God.

- **Ask:** Okay, so we know that God speaks to us, but how? What ways do you think we can listen to God? How might he speak to us? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Those are great answers, and there's definitely many different ways that we can listen to God. A lot of times we just need to spend time being still and quiet, so that we can hear him.
- **Say:** We're going to watch, and listen, to a video right now that will help us understand some of the ways God talks to us, and how we can listen better. As you watch, take time to actually listen for God's voice, and ask him what he wants to tell you.
- **Video: Take a Minute / Listen**
- **Ask:** So what are some of the ways God can speak to us? (Let kids respond with varying answers based off the video, or their own opinion, etc.) Yep, he definitely speaks through the Bible - that's his Word! Or he may speak during prayer by putting a word or picture in our thoughts, or giving us an idea.



**PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

- **Say:** God will speak to us in a lot of different ways, and we have to be ready, and paying attention to him, to make sure we don't miss it. Let's pray, and ask God to speak to us right now.
- **Pray:** God, we want to hear from you, and act on what you say. Please help us make space for you to talk. Amen!
- **Set up worship:** We've talked a lot about listening, and how God speaks to us, today. Now it's time to focus on him in another way—through worship!
- **Music Video: Dance Laugh Love**
- **Music Video: Take It All**

*Dismiss kids to small groups.*

# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

**Per kid:** 1 colored square (1/4th of kids get red, 1/4th gets yellow, 1/4th gets blue, 1/4th gets green), One 8" styrofoam or heavy cardboard/paper plate - all are reused

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## small group supplies

**Per group:** Bible, markers

**Per kid:** 1 invitation (BW, 4 images per 8.5x11 cardstock, Page 11)

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## large group supplies

**Per Group:** Bible

**Per kid:** none

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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: Kitten Compilation (3 clips edited into 1 video, and overlaid with this music:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MK0z3LS45xU>)
  - a. 0:00-0:10; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9mgJphN94U>
  - b. 0:05-end; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgAgfC8Tqok>
  - c. 0:02-0:20; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWDb2Zb6jLQ>
3. Video: Young Samuel (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>misc)
4. Video: God's Story / Prophets (0:07-0:22)
5. Video: Frogs (0:07-0:17; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U05if4AkBPs>; cover with KC logo)
6. Video: Fireworks (0:25-0:35; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDLu7MGlwEk>; cover with KC logo)
7. Video: Construction Sounds / Bird (0:00-0:30; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0Zfflh0-NA>; cover with KC logo)
8. Video: Construction Sounds / Bird (0:00-0:30; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0Zfflh0-NA>; show video, don't cover with logo)
9. Video: Take a Minute / Listen ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMTus4NUK\\_0&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMTus4NUK_0&feature=youtu.be))
10. Music Video: Dance Laugh Love ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Q\\_y4N3Pajo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Q_y4N3Pajo&feature=youtu.be))
11. Music Video: Take It All (KC/SM media videos songs>music videos)

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## connect questions

Tell me about Samuel.  
How can God speak to us?

\_\_\_\_\_,

would you like to  
join me in Kids' Club?

\_\_\_\_\_,

would you like to  
join me in Kids' Club?

\_\_\_\_\_,

would you like to  
join me in Kids' Club?

\_\_\_\_\_,

would you like to  
join me in Kids' Club?