



LESSON 3

REFERENCES: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PP. 581, 582.

Ears to Hear

When someone calls you to come, do you go quickly? Or do you move slowly, or not at all? Little Samuel heard someone calling him. What do you think he did?



Eli, the old priest, slept peacefully in his bed. The boy Samuel slept soundly nearby.

“Samuel! Samuel!” the Lord spoke.

Samuel opened his eyes. Had someone called him? He hurried to Eli’s bedside.

“Here I am!” Samuel said, entering Eli’s darkened room. “You called me.”

Eli opened his eyes. “I didn’t call you,” he said sleepily. “Go back to bed.”

Samuel did as he was told and quickly fell asleep again.

“Samuel! Samuel!” the Lord called again.

Samuel’s eyes popped open. He hopped out of bed. That surely must be Eli calling him. He hurried to Eli’s room. “Here I am,” he said.

“You called me.”

Memory Verse

“Speak, LORD,
for your servant
is listening.”

1 SAMUEL 3:9, NIV.

The Message

We serve God
when we listen to
His voice.

Eli opened his eyes again. "I didn't call," he whispered. "Go back to bed."

Samuel walked slowly out of Eli's room. Someone had called him. If it wasn't Eli, who could it be?

Samuel did not recognize the Lord's voice, because he had never heard it before. Samuel lay back down. Very soon he was sound asleep again.

"Samuel! Samuel!" the Lord said a third time.

Samuel opened his eyes. Once more he hurried to Eli. "Here I am; you called me," he said.

Suddenly Eli knew who was calling the boy. "Go back to bed," Eli said. "If He calls you again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'"

Samuel's heart may have begun to beat faster. Could it really be the Lord speaking to him? Why? Why would the Lord call his name? Samuel went back to bed. But this time he probably lay there with his eyes wide open. He waited. He listened.

"Samuel! Samuel!" the Lord called again.

And Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

Samuel, even though he was still a child, would listen to God. Samuel truly wanted to be His helper.

God wants you to listen to Him today. He wants you to be His helper too. You listen to Him when you listen to His words from the Bible. Listen carefully to God's words when you read the Bible. They will help you to be His helper every day.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week read the lesson story and review the memory verse. Call “Samuel, Samuel.” Your child does the following:

Speak, Point to mouth.

LORD, Point upward.

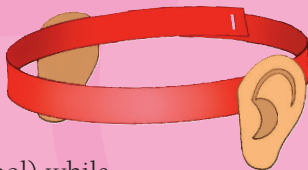
for your servant . Point to self.

is listening. Point to ears.

1 Samuel 3:9. . . . Palms together; then open.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to put on their “listening ears”



(made in Sabbath School) while you read 1 Samuel 3:1-10. Ask: Why didn’t Samuel know God was calling him?

Go for a walk and listen for sounds in nature that tell about God’s love. Repeat the memory verse.

MONDAY

Read the lesson story together. Ask: How many times did God call Samuel?

Say: Put on your “listening ears” and do what I tell you (jump up and down, sing a song, hug me, etc.). Praise your child for listening well. Repeat the memory verse.

TUESDAY

Show the story in the Bible (1 Samuel 3:1-10) and read it. Ask: Whom did Samuel think was calling him? What did Eli tell Samuel to do?

Play “Mommy Says” (or “Daddy Says”). Have

your child follow directions you give after you say “Mommy Says” (touch your toes, smile, etc.). Talk about reasons for listening to parents. Repeat the memory verse.

WEDNESDAY

Act out the lesson story together. Who will be Samuel? Eli? God’s voice?

Sing the song “When a Mother Calls” (see page 64). Have your child hide and come when the song calls them. Repeat the memory verse.

THURSDAY

Use water to teach about our five senses. Have your child listen to the sound of running water, touch the water, look at it, taste it, and smell it. Ask: Who



gave us these ways of knowing about things? Repeat the memory verse.

FRIDAY

During worship, read *Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 581 (second and third paragraphs). Ask: How did Samuel feel when God talked to him? In what other ways does God talk to us today? How will God speak to us in church tomorrow? Have your child repeat the memory verse for the rest of the family.

Use your ears to listen to some pretty music about Jesus. Thank Jesus for ears that can hear.