



# Samuel and Eli

Lesson Aim: To know we should listen to God.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The King Who Watches Over Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10

**What He Has Done:** God called Samuel.

## THE WAY

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Unit 7: The King Who Watches Over Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
33	Deborah, the Judge, Judges 4:4-5; 5:7	God gave the Israelites a judge named Deborah.	To know God gives us people to help us.
34	Gideon Goes to Battle, Judges 7:17-21	God gave Gideon and His people a victory.	To know we can trust God.
35	Samson and the Gate, Judges 13:5; 16:2, 3	God made Samson strong.	To know God makes us strong.
36	Ruth and Naomi, Ruth 1:8-18	God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship.	To know God gives us special friends.
37	Samuel and Eli, 1 Samuel 3:1-10	God called Samuel.	To know we should listen to God.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 145. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for watching over us all. Help the children understand how to listen to Your voice. Reassure them of Your presence every day. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Listening!** What a great skill we can help our twos and threes learn! When we listen, we are showing respect for those who are speaking. Take opportunities to help the children learn to listen to each other, and to listen to you, their teacher. Talk to them about how we can listen to God; we can read His Word, listen to the wise counsel of others, and most importantly, pray.

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an ear
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Samuel Hears God	Coloring pages of Samuel, crayons or markers
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Squeak, Zoom, Chirp!	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Puppet Center:</b> Listen to God	Sheet or blanket, praise music, Bible story books
		<b>Music Center:</b> Good Listeners	Praise music
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments, rope <b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Can Do Everything" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Here Am I" "I Am with You" "I Will Listen" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 37
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> 1 Samuel 3:1-10	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Samuel 3:10 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, three items that make noise (bells or musical instrument, blocks, squeaky toy)
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Samuel and Sleeping Eli	Sturdy flesh-colored paper, standard-size sturdy white paper, cloth, craft stick, tape, glue or glue stick, crayons or markers, optional: cotton
		<b>Game:</b> Here I Am!	None, optional: sheets or blankets
		<b>Game:</b> Listen!	Bible, noisemaker (bells or musical instrument)
		<b>Snack:</b> Crunchy Munchies	Crunchy snack (Chips, crackers, carrot sticks, etc.)
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 7, Lesson 37
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> 1 Samuel 3:1-10	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Jesus Gives Me Strength!	Soft ball for rolling
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Memory Verse Echo	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about listening

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The King who watches over us

# THE WELCOME

## WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of an ear. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of an ear help you remember we should listen to God.**

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**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: SAMUEL HEARS GOD

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Samuel, crayons or markers

### **DO**

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Our coloring page today is a picture of a little boy named Samuel. One night, Samuel heard God speak to him. We may not hear God speak to us with His out-loud voice but God can speak to us through His words in the Bible, through other people, and through the world He made. What is one of your favorite Bible stories?** (Children respond.)

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: SQUEAK, ZOOM, CHIRP!

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while talking about things that make noises. Encourage children to make things that make noises with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Today, we are going to talk about listening. What do you hear right now?** Talk about the noises you hear. **Can you find a cookie cutter that is the shape of something that makes a noise?** (Children respond.) **What noise does it make?** Children make the noise of the shape they have chosen.

To extend this activity, make the sound of one of the cookie cutter shapes and see if the children can find the shape you have chosen. Or, make a sound the children would recognize (sheep, pig, dog, cat, car, horn, door bell, siren, wind) and have them guess the sound.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **DISCOVERY CENTER: LISTEN TO GOD**

### **SUPPLIES**

Sheet or blanket, praise music, Bible story books

### **DO**

Lay the sheet or blanket on the floor to create a “quiet area” for the children to listen to Bible songs and look at Bible story books.

### **TALK ABOUT**

God helps us know in our hearts what He is saying to us—through the Bible, through people, and through the world He made. God can speak to us through Bible songs and Bible story books, too. Let’s take some time to listen to God now. What is your favorite Bible song? (Children respond.) What is your favorite Bible story? (Children respond.)

## **MUSIC CENTER: GOOD LISTENERS**

### **SUPPLIES**

Praise music

### **DO**

Have children stand in a circle. Play music. As the music plays, children walk in a circle. When the music stops, children sit down. Play again, as time allows.

### **TALK ABOUT**

Are you a good listener? Let’s find out. When the music is playing, I want you to march in a circle. When the music stops, sit down as quickly as you can. Listen carefully so you can hear the music.

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

It’s time for Praise Time. Let’s sing a “Clean Up Song” as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

<b>“I can do everything</b>	(I) Point to self. Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body.
<b>through Him who gives me</b>	(Him) Point to heaven. (gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body.
<b>strength.”</b>	Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.
<b>Philippians 4:13</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The King who watches over us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**Listen!** Point out the sounds you hear or how quiet it is. **Today, we will hear a story about a little boy who listened and heard God speaking to him! We can talk with God through prayer – let's do that now.** Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, we thank You that we can talk with You through prayer. Help us to listen and to hear what You have for us. Amen.**



God helps us know in our hearts what He is saying to us—through the Bible, through people, and through the world He made. We may not hear Him in an out-loud voice, but if we listen, He will speak to us. Sing: "I Will Listen."

In our Bible story today we will hear about a boy named Samuel who heard the Lord calling to him in the night. Samuel answered by saying, "I am listening, Lord." Samuel learned that night that God was with him. Sing: "I Am with You."



**I wonder if Delbert and Lello know anything about Samuel. Let's call them both to come out for a visit!** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 37.



**Through God we can do anything He wants us to do. That's what our Bible Memory Verse tells us. Let's say it together with the motions.**

**"I can do everything**

**through Him who gives me**

**strength."**

**Philippians 4:13**

(I) Point to self.

Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body. (Him) Point to heaven.

(gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body.

Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**Is there anything you can't do through God? (No.) That's right. You can do everything through God who gives you strength.** Sing Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Can Do Everything."



Samuel and Eli

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Samuel 3:10, picture of the Bible story, three items that make noise (bells or musical instrument, blocks, squeaky toy)

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

**Let's find out what good listeners you are by playing a game. Close your eyes.** Make noise with the first item. (You may need to turn around if children have difficulty keeping their eyes closed.) **Who can tell me what they heard?** (Children respond.) Make the noise again until children guess what it is. Repeat with the other two items. **Great job everyone! You are good listeners. Sometimes, it is difficult to sit, be quiet, and listen.**

**Today's story is about a little boy named Samuel who heard God's voice in the quiet of the night. Get out your best listening ears and let's listen to our story.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Samuel 3:10.



### **WATCH THE WORD: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **There once was a boy named Samuel.**
- **He slept in the temple each night.**
- **He laid down to sleep; he heard a voice call,**
- **And he ran to Eli's bedside.**
- **Samuel said, "Eli, here I am.**
- **I heard you calling out."**
- **"I did not call you," Eli said.**
- **"Go back to bed and lie down."**
- **When Samuel lay back down to sleep,**
- **He heard the voice once more.**
- **But Eli said, "Go back and lie down."**
- **They did not know it was the Lord.**
- **The third time Samuel heard the voice,**
- **Old Eli figured it out.**
- **"Next time you hear that voice, just say,**
- **'Here I am, Lord, I will listen now!'"**

**Who was calling Samuel? (God.) What did Samuel say when God called? ("Here I am, Lord, I will listen now!")**



Listening to God

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: SAMUEL AND SLEEPING ELI**

**Purpose:** To remind the children of the story of Samuel and Eli.

**Supplies:** Sturdy flesh-colored paper, standard-size sturdy white paper, cloth, craft stick, tape, glue or glue stick, crayons or markers, optional: cotton

**Prepare:** Cut two cloth rectangles as blankets for the two beds. From sturdy flesh-colored paper, draw and cut out a 3-inch tall Samuel. On standard-size sturdy white paper, draw Samuel's bed on the left side and Eli lying on a bed on the right side. At the top of the sturdy paper, print:

**The Lord Calls Samuel**

**1 Samuel 3:1-10**

Under Samuel's bed, print:

**"Here I am, you called me."**

Under Eli's bed, print:

**"I did not call. Go back and lie down."**

**Adaptation for Ages 2-3:** This craft was developed for ages 4-5. To adapt the craft for younger children, you may choose to simplify or pre-make portions of the craft. One possible adaptation for this craft is to use a pre-colored picture of a boy for Samuel.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color the cut out of Samuel and the picture of Eli and the two beds.
2. Glue a cloth rectangle on both beds as blankets.
3. Tape Samuel onto the craft stick.
4. Optional: Glue cotton on Eli's beard.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Use your Samuel puppet to show what he did the first time God called him.** Children move Samuel puppet from Samuel's bed to Eli's bed.
- **What did Samuel say?** ("Here I am!")
- **What did Eli say?** ("I did not call you. Go back to bed.") Children move Samuel puppet back to bed to lie down.
- Repeat two more times.
- **Was Eli calling Samuel?** (No.) **Who was really calling Samuel?** (God.)
- **What did Samuel do when God called the third time?** (He listened to God.)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: HERE I AM!**

**Purpose:** Children will practice listening and responding like Samuel did.

**Supplies:** None, optional: sheets or blankets

**Samuel was sleeping when God called to him. Samuel listened to God. You can listen just like Samuel did!**

### **Directions:**

1. Optional: Spread a sheet or blanket on the floor for the children to lay on.
2. Children lie on the floor pretending to be Samuel asleep in bed.
3. Call out a child's name.
4. Child "wakes up," stands in front of the teacher, and says, **"Here I am."**
5. Teacher asks child, **"Will you listen to God?"**
6. Child says, **"I will listen."**
7. Child stands near teacher or goes back to bed.
8. Repeat until each child has a turn.

## **GAME: LISTEN!**

**Purpose:** Children will practice listening for God's words from the Bible.

**Supplies:** Bible, noisemaker (bells or musical instrument)

**Prepare:** Lay your lesson inside a Bible so the children can see these words come from God's Word.

**We can listen to God when someone reads His words from the Bible. Close your eyes. When you hear God's words, open your eyes and stand up. When you hear a different noise, open your eyes and sit down. Let's listen carefully.**

### **Directions:**

1. Alternate between making noise with the noisemaker and reading one of the Bible Memory Verses below. Be sure to hold the Bible where the children can see it.
2. Children stand when you read from the Bible.
3. Children sit when you make a noise with the noisemaker.

### **Kings & Kingdoms Ages 2-3 Bible Memory Verses**

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

"Guide me in Your truth and teach me." Psalm 25:5

"Sing praises to God, sing praises." Psalm 47:6

"Lord, You know that I love you." John 21:17

"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

"His love endures forever." Psalm 100:5

"Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: CRUNCHY MUNCHIES**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy a noisy snack as they discuss listening to God's Word.

**Snack Suggestion:** Crunchy snack (chips, crackers, carrot sticks, etc.)

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Let's eat a crunchy snack. Eat your snack as loudly as you can!**
  - **Now, eat your snack as quietly as you can.**
  - **We can listen to God's words. Where are God's words?** (In the Bible.)
  - **If we are always loud, can we listen to God's words?** (No.) **When someone is reading God's words in the Bible, we should listen very quietly.**
  - **What should we do when someone is about to read the Bible?** (Listen.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."</b>	(I) Point to self. Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body. (Him) Point to heaven. (gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body. Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.
<b>Philippians 4:13</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **There once was a boy named Samuel.** (Raise index finger.)
- **He slept in the temple each night.** (Rest head on folded hands.)
- **He laid down to sleep; he heard a voice call,** (Cup hand around ear.)
- **And he ran to Eli's bedside.** (Run in place.)
  
- **Samuel said, "Eli, here I am.** (Point to self.)
- **I heard you calling out."** (Cup hand around ear.)
- **"I did not call you," Eli said.** (Shake head no.)
- **"Go back to bed and lie down."** (Point to the doorway.)
  
- **When Samuel lay back down to sleep,** (Rest head on folded hands.)
- **He heard the voice once more.** (Cup hand around ear.)
- **But Eli said, "Go back and lie down."** (Point to the doorway.)
- **They did not know it was the Lord.** (Point to heaven.)
  
- **The third time Samuel heard the voice,** (Cup hand around ear.)
- **Old Eli figured it out.** (Point to head.)
- **"Next time you hear that voice, just say,** (Raise index finger.)
- **'Here I am Lord, I will listen now!'"** (Point to self.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

### **GAME: JESUS GIVES ME STRENGTH!**

**Purpose:** Children will realize Jesus gives them strength.

**Supplies:** Soft ball for rolling

**Our Bible Memory Verse tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."  
Jesus is the one who gives us strength.**

**Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Teacher rolls the ball to a child.
3. Child holds the ball and says, **"I can do everything through Jesus."**
4. **Optional:** Child names an activity that is hard for him or her to do. For example: tying a shoe, riding a bike, sharing toys, counting, reading, or swimming.
5. Together, everyone says to the child with the ball, **"Jesus gives name of child strength!"**
6. Child rolls the ball to another child.
7. Continue playing until each child has a turn.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MEMORY VERSE ECHO**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children stand in a circle.
2. Divide your class into two groups: the loud echo and the whisper echo.
3. Have them all crouch down until it is their turn to echo the verse.
4. Say the verse. Have the loud group stand and echo your words and then the whisper group.
5. Repeat a few times.
6. If you have time, reassign which group does which kind of echo and play again.
7. Optional: Add some variety to the echo. Do it faster each time or slower or have the children jump up and down, clap, or spin in a circle when it is their turn to echo.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about listening.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 7, Lesson 37: Samuel and Eli

**PONDER!** Three times, Samuel thought Eli called to him (1 Samuel 3:1-10). Who was calling Samuel? (God.) God wants you to listen to Him, just like Samuel did. Where do we find God's words? (In the Bible.)

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for giving Your words to us in the Bible. Help us listen to You. Amen."

**PLAY!** Play "Here I Am!" Take turns being the caller. Everyone else lies down on a bed, couch, or on the floor. The caller calls someone's name. He or she jumps up and says, "Here I am!" The caller asks, "Will you listen to God?" He or she answers, "I will listen."

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"I can do  
everything**

**through Him  
who gives me**

**strength."**

**Philippians 4:13**

(I) Point to self.

Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body.

(Him) Point to heaven.

(gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body.

Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.