



Date: _____
Series: Children of the Bible
Summer Year 1, Lesson 7

God Talks to Samuel

Take Home Point: *We listen to God.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: 1 Samuel 3:1-21

We will help children know:

- God talks to us in his word and we can listen.
- God talked to Samuel at nighttime and Samuel listened.
- We need to listen to God.




We will help children feel:

- Secure in knowing God loves us and we can listen to him.
- Happy that God talks to us.

We will help children do:

- Watch a puppet presentation that introduces the Bible Event.
- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that you have to listen to.
- Make a craft with listening ears.
- Play a game called *Listening Ears*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce the learning of today's Take Home Point: ***We listen to God.**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of toys
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3	Puppet Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubba puppet
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	6 7 8 9	Activity 1: Bible Event Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Craft Activity 4: Game	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bugles napkins, cups and water <i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> copies of Appendix A paper plates glue sticks tape googly eyes washable markers or crayons sticker that says: We listen to God <i>optional:</i> yarn <i>Activity 4: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> none
Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes) 	11	Review the Take Home Point Pray Sing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of music craft example from Activity 3

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys, such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: The opening puppet presentation will be an attention grabber that helps gather the children. This is not an extensive presentation but a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and the Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the "joke" but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Puppet Presentation:

Bubba Doesn't Listen

Supplies: Bubba puppet

Presenter: Boys and girls, shall we call Bubba?

Kids call Bubba. Bubba... Bubba... Bubba. No response from Bubba.

Presenter: I wonder if he is there? Shall we try again?

Kids call Bubba. Bubba... Bubba... Bubba. No response from Bubba.

Presenter: Hmmm. Bubba must not be answering... or maybe he doesn't hear us. Let's try one more time.

Kids call Bubba. Bubba... Bubba... Bubba. Bubba enters.

Bubba: Hi, everyone.

Presenter: Hi, Bubba. Why didn't you come when we called you?

Bubba: When did you call me?

Presenter: Just now. Didn't you hear us?

Bubba: No, I didn't hear you. I was playing with my elephant.

Presenter: So, maybe you heard me, but you didn't listen and come out.

Bubba: Oops... sorry.

Presenter: That reminds me of who we will learn about in the Bible Event today.

Bubba: Who is that?

Presenter: His name is Samuel. He was a special little boy.

Bubba: What made him special?

Presenter: He was a helper in God's house and to the priest Eli. Even though he was very young, he was a big help. He learned how to listen to God.

Bubba: How?

Presenter: Once he heard a voice call, "S-a-m-u-e-l" in the middle of the night. Samuel got up and went to Eli to see if he had called. Eli was sound asleep. When Samuel wanted to know if Eli called him, Eli woke and said, "I didn't call you." Samuel went back to bed. Guess what happened? He heard the voice call his name again. "S-a-m-u-e-l." Samuel thought it was Eli calling him again. So Samuel went into Eli's room and said, "What do you want?" Eli said, "I didn't call you. Go back to bed." It happened a third time. Samuel heard a voice call his name. When Samuel went to Eli, this time Eli said, "I am not the one calling you. It is God. Next time you hear him, say 'Speak, Lord, your servant listens.'" Guess what happened?

Bubba: The voice called Samuel again.

Presenter: Right. It said, "S-a-m-u-e-l." This time Samuel knew it was God speaking to him. Samuel sat up in bed and said, "Speak, Lord, your servant listens." God told Samuel a special message. Samuel later shared it with many people.

Today we are going to learn that God speaks to us, also. We can listen to God.

Bubba: How does he speak to me? When I sleep?

Presenter: He can speak to us anytime. He speaks to us when we listen to what the Bible says. It is God's special book for us. It tells us about how God sent his Son Jesus into the world and how God loves us. It tells us what we can do. We can listen to God. Today you're listening to God when you listen to what he says in the Bible.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. We listen to God. We listen to God.

Very good. Bubba, can you help with the new song?

Bubba: Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

LISten **NO**W to **GO**D.
LISten **NO**W to **GO**D.
HE **WANTS** to **TALK** to **US**.
LISten **NO**W to **GO**D.

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for two-year-olds should be one to five or fewer. Divide into groups of five with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds. Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of ten. The ratio will be maintained at one to five.

Activity 1: Bible Event

Supplies: children's picture Bible

Part One: Read the Bible Event

Read from a children's picture Bible about God calling Samuel.

Part Two: Act Out the Bible Event

Samuel lives in the temple.

- Hannah prayed to God for a baby. God listened to her prayers and sent her baby Samuel. Let's rock a pretend baby in our arms.
- When Samuel was a few years old, Hannah took him to live in the temple with Eli. Eli would teach Samuel how to serve God.

Samuel hears someone calling.

- At night, Samuel slept on a mat. Let's pretend to sleep.
- One night, Samuel heard someone calling him. Let's all call his name, "Samuel."
- Samuel did not know that it was God calling him. Samuel got up and went to Eli. Samuel said, "Here I am." Eli was confused. He said he did not call Samuel. He told Samuel to go back to bed.
- Samuel went back to bed. Let's all lie down.
- Again, God called Samuel. "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli. Let's stand up.
- Samuel said, "Here I am." Eli said, "I did not call. Go back to bed."
- Samuel went back to bed again. God called Samuel a third time. Let's call his name, "Samuel." Samuel.
- Samuel got up and went to Eli. Samuel said, "Here I am; you called me." This time, Eli realized that it was God calling Samuel. Eli told Samuel to go and lie down and if God called again, say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

God talks to Samuel.

- Samuel went back to bed again. This time, God came and stood before Samuel calling his name. Let's call his name, "Samuel." Samuel.
- This time Samuel knew it was God speaking to him. Samuel said, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." God talked to Samuel and told him things he was going to do and things that were going to happen to Eli and his family.

Part Three: Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

LISten NOW to GOD.
LISten NOW to GOD.
HE WANTS to TALK to US.
LISten NOW to GOD.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me.
We listen to God. We listen to God.

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies: Bugles (snacking chips), napkins cups and water, children's picture Bible

BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES BEFORE YOU GIVE THE CHILDREN ANY FOOD TO EAT.
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Boys and girls, today we are hearing how God talked to Samuel. Samuel listened to God. God wants all his people to listen to him. Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Pass out a napkin and cup of water. Pass out Bugles to children.

Many years ago, people used a horn, also called a trumpet or bugle, like this (hold up a Bugle) to gather God's people together at the temple or church to hear what God would say. We can pretend these are trumpets to gather God's people together today to hear what God will say. We listen to God when we come to church and listen to words from the Bible. Hold up the children's picture Bible as you speak. It is God's word. Eat your snack now and remember to listen to God.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. We listen to God. We listen to God.

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

LISten NOW to GOD.
LISten NOW to GOD.
HE WANTS to TALK to US.
LISten NOW to GOD.

Activity 3: Craft

Supplies:

- copies of Appendix A, cut out before class
- one paper plate per child
- glue sticks
- googly eyes
- tape
- crayons or washable markers
- label that says "We listen to God." Or permanent marker to write it on craft

Option—yarn for hair or whiskers

Boys and girls, we have been hearing how we need to listen to God. God talks to us in the Bible. He tells us how he loves us and how he gave us his Son Jesus.

What do we use to hear God's word, the Bible? That's right, our ears. Today we are going to make a face and put good listening ears on our faces.

Let each child choose a pair of ears for their project. If child is reluctant to choose, choose for him. Give each child a paper plate.

First, we will tape on the plate the special listening ears you chose. Now you can color the face any way you want. Next, we will glue on eyes.

If using the option, now decorate with yarn for hair or whiskers. Finish by putting sticker on back or writing "We listen to God" on the plate.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. We listen to God. We listen to God.

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**LISten NOW to GOD.
LISten NOW to GOD.
HE WANTS to TALK to US.
LISten NOW to GOD.**

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

**Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.**

Activity 4: Learning Game

Supplies: none

Boys and girls, today we have been learning that we need to listen to God. God talks to us through his word, the Bible. Let's practice listening. We are going to play a game called *Listening Ears*. You will need to listen with your ears to what I tell you.

- 1. Listening ears, hear me say jump up and down.**
- 2. Listening ears, hear me say show me a frown.**

3. Listening ears, hear me say meow like a cat.
4. Listening ears, hear me say on your tummy, pat, pat, pat.
5. Listening ears, hear me say pull on your ear.
6. Listening ears, hear me say give me a cheer—YEA!!!
7. Listening ears, hear me say turn around.
8. Listening ears, hear me say sit down.
9. Listening ears, hear me say growl like a bear.
10. Listening ears, hear me say God hears our prayers.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. We listen to God. We listen to God.

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

LISten NOW to GOD.
LISten NOW to GOD.
HE WANTS to TALK to US.
LISten NOW to GOD.

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter shows the craft and compliments the children for doing a wonderful job. He/she reviews the Take Home Point: ***We listen to God.**

Lesson Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us listen Help us listen
To your words. To your words.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Lesson Song:

Song: to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

LISten NOW to GOD.
LISten NOW to GOD.
HE WANTS to TALK to US.
LISten NOW to GOD.

Lead them in three songs on a tape or CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out the God Talk at Home.

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