

HomeWord
For Parents

During an annual visit to the Tabernacle, Hannah breathed a prayer to God, asking Him for a son. God answered that prayer, and Samuel was born. Samuel grew up with Eli, the priest in the Tabernacle. As priest he was responsible for his sons—Hophni and Phinehas. However, his sons were wicked, and Eli failed to restrain them. Eli's sons were not the only wicked ones in the land. All of Israel was continually falling into wickedness, idolatry, and sin.

Because of this sin, God's judgment was about to come through Samuel, the last judge of Israel. God spoke the message to Samuel. It was fearful news from the Lord. God planned to finally judge Eli's household and Israel as a nation. The judgment prophesied by Samuel would prove to be God's final judgment on Israel during this dark era of history.

God's judgment came to the nation of Israel through the Philistines who came against them in battle. Israel lost the battle, and the Ark of the Covenant—that the Israelites had hoped would serve as a spiritual force to bring success—was stolen.

Not only that, but the judgment God spoke on Eli and his family came about. Both of Eli's sons died in the battle with the Philistines, just as God had told Samuel. Eli, upon hearing that the Ark was taken and his sons killed, fell over in shock and died. God's glory had departed from Israel. And Samuel's prophetic declaration of the judgment of Holy God on the sin, wickedness, and idolatry of Israel was fulfilled.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord For Family Discussion

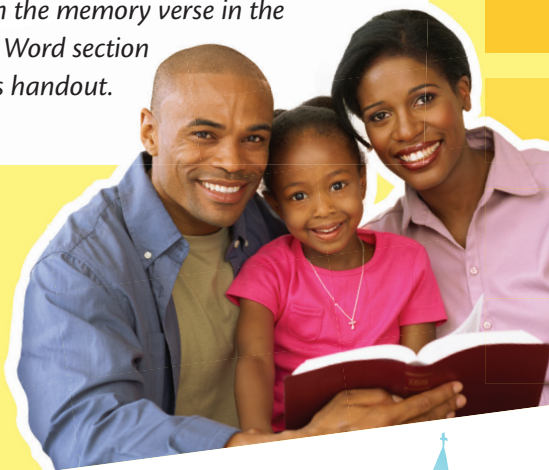
Your friend might want to go to church, learn the Bible, or even find out about Jesus. But what if he is scared to do that, afraid of what people will think? **What would you say?**

At first, following Jesus does seem scary. It's true. People might make fun of you because you changed. But God created us to glorify Him. Our hearts are designed to want to worship something. So, basically, we are always worshipping. And there are only two options—we worship the world or we worship God. The world is a scary thing to worship. It is always changing. It is sinful, violent, and evil. The world cannot be trusted! But God never changes. God is the Creator of everything and He holds it all together. He can be trusted. And we can know all about Him in His Word which, by the way, has never changed either. Knowing what God did for us through Jesus is wonderful news. You won't care what people think. And you won't be scared.

inWord For Family Study

"Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11). You hope your children will turn from sin. God's Word hidden in their hearts will equip them to fight against temptation. Encourage them by memorizing God's Word together!

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



God Calls Samuel

 **Key Theme**

- God uses people to accomplish His perfect plans.

 **Key Passages**

- Judges 21:25
- 1 Samuel 2:26, 3:3–6, 3:9–10



What You HEARD in the Word

- God chose Samuel to be the last judge of Israel. Samuel obeyed, even at a young age.

Ask your child these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Who chose Samuel to follow Him?
- 2 Samuel heard God. He _____ and _____.
- 3 Where can we learn more about God?



1) God. 2) Listened, obeyed. 3) In God's Word—the Bible!

**Read the Word
with Mom & Dad**

Monday (Judges 21:25)
What were the people of Israel doing during this time?

Tuesday (1 Samuel 4:3)
What did the people want to bring into battle with them?

Wednesday (1 Samuel 3:17)
What did Eli ask Samuel?

Thursday (1 Samuel 2:23)
What did Eli ask his sons? What had Eli heard about them?

Friday (1 Samuel 3:4)
Who was calling Samuel?

Saturday (1 Samuel 16:7)
Does man see the same way God sees? (Your memory verse.)

Learn the Word!

"For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7b

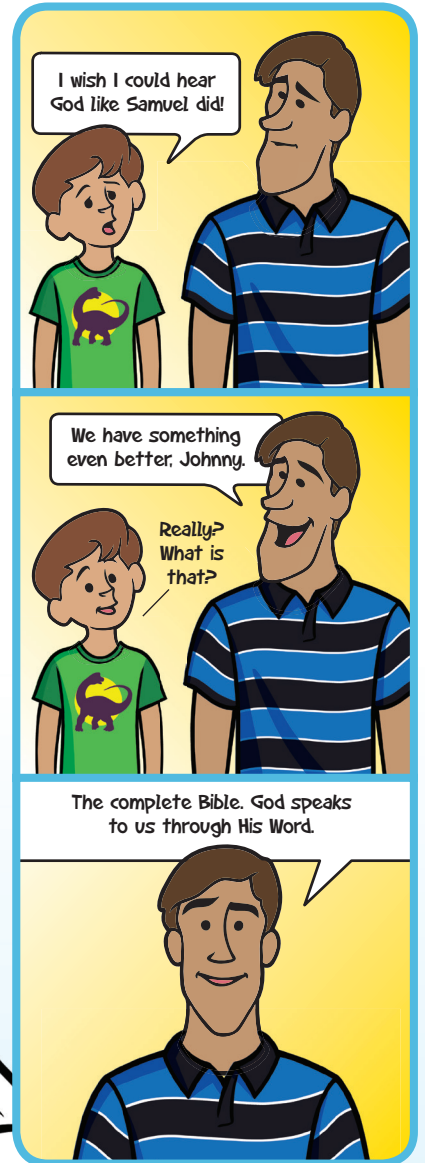
God Called Samuel

Color the picture below. Remember, God called Samuel when he was a boy. Samuel listened to God and obeyed.



LIVE the Word

with Johnny and His Dad



God Calls You!

(To the tune of "Skip, Skip, Skip to My Lou")

God calls you to obey.
(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

God calls you to obey.
(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

God calls you to obey.
(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

Yes! I'll obey today, Lord!
(Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.)

SNEAK PEEK
Israel is crying out for a king. Will God give them what they want? Find out next week!