

SAMUEL WAS BORN AND CALLED

1 Samuel 1-3



During the time of the judges, there was a woman named Hannah who desperately wanted a son. Every year, she would go with her husband to worship and sacrifice to the Lord.

During one of her visits, Hannah went into the temple, crying and praying to God: “Lord, please give me a son, and I will give him back to you.” Eli was also in the temple at the same time. He said, “Go in peace, and may God grant your request and give you a son.” God answered Hannah’s prayer, and she gave birth to a boy, and she named him Samuel.

When the boy was a few years old, Hannah returned to Shiloh and gave Samuel to Eli to worship and serve the Lord. Then Hannah prayed and said, “My heart rejoices in the Lord. There is no one holy like our God!”

Sometime later, Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the Lord by the ark of

God. The Lord called Samuel, and Samuel answered, “Here I am.” Samuel ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.” “I didn’t call,” Eli replied. “Go back and lie down.”

A third time, the Lord called Samuel. This time, when Samuel went to Eli, Eli understood that the Lord was calling Samuel. He said to Samuel, “If he calls you again, say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’”

When the Lord called Samuel a fourth time, Samuel replied, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” God spoke to Samuel, and all Israel knew that Samuel was a prophet of the Lord.

Christ Connection: God called to Samuel, and Samuel responded. God calls people to turn from sin and follow Jesus. Everyone who responds by trusting in Jesus is saved from sin.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Hannah prayed to God, and He answered her. Match each Bible reference to its correct description to learn more about prayer.

Jeremiah 29:12

Jesus taught to pray for God's will to be done.

Romans 12:12

God tells us to give our requests to Him in prayer.

Matthew 6:9-13

God hears our prayers to Him

James 5:16

God tells us to pray for one another.

Philippians 4:6-7

Be persistent in prayer.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Samuel did not know God's voice. How can we learn God's voice?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

The Bible tells us that God calls all people to repent (Acts 17:30-31). We can respond to God's call by turning from our sin and turning to Jesus. When we respond to God's call, God is faithful to save us from our sins. Have you responded to God's call of repentance?



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

» When has God answered your prayer? How did He answer you?

» How can we respond to God's call to obey Him?

» How can we respond to God answering our prayers for His glory?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God called to Samuel, and Samuel responded. God calls people to turn from sin and follow Jesus. Everyone who responds by trusting in Jesus is saved from sin.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Philippians 4:19 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, praising Him for calling people to Himself through faith in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Think about how God calls people to repent and trust in Jesus. Read one of the following passages each day this week:

1 John 5:14

1 Samuel 15:22

Romans 11:36

Acts 17:30

Romans 2:4

Acts 5:31