

God Talks To Samuel

Introduction

Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:1-22

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 3:10 “And the Lord came and called as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and Samuel replied, ‘Yes, your servant is listening’”.

Bible Lesson

Lesson Goal: The children will know that when God speaks to us we must listen. (God speaks to us through His word, the Holy Spirit, circumstances, prayer and other believers)

Hook: Have the children play a game where they have to guess who it is that is talking to them. Have all the children sit in a circle. Blindfold a child and have them sit in the middle of the circle. Point to one of the children and have them start talking. (Remind the children not to identify themselves as they talk to the person blindfolded) After one minute have the child stop talking. See if the person in the middle can guess who it was that was talking to them. Take turns until everyone in the circle has had a turn to be blindfolded. After the game, discuss with the children the reason they were able to recognize the voice of a friend is because they were very familiar with that person’s voice. In the same way, to recognize God speaking to us, we need to be familiar with His voice. We become familiar with His voice by knowing all we can about Him. We need to pray and study God’s word to become familiar with Him.

Scripture to read: 1 Samuel 3:1-22

You may want to have some of the older children help with the reading. It may also be helpful to read this passage from the New Living Translation. Be sure to let the children see you reading the Bible story from the Bible. It is important that they know what you are teaching is from God’s word. Help the children follow along in their Bible as the passage is read.

Key Principles:

After reading the scripture passage, discuss and emphasize these key principles from 1 Samuel 3 with the children.

1. When God speaks we must listen.
2. Whatever God tells us to do we must obey.
3. To know God’s voice, we must be familiar with God and know God.

Application:

The following questions are appropriate for older children.

1. Who did Samuel think was talking to him at first? (Eli)
2. What did Eli tell Samuel to do if God speaks to him again? (Say, “Yes, Lord, your servant is listening.”)
3. What did God say to Samuel? (He is going to bring judgment on Eli’s family because his son’s were blaspheming God)

4. What was Eli's response to God's message? (Let Him do whatever He thinks best)

The following questions are appropriate for younger children.

1. Who did Samuel think was talking to him? (Eli)
2. Who was really talking to Samuel? (God)
3. What do we need to do when God speaks to us? (listen and obey)

Activity

Have the children make an invitation to talk with God. After they have made the invitation, have them exchange them with each other. To make the invitations, use a small piece of construction paper. At the top write, You're Invited. Underneath that write, To: Talk with God, When: Anytime, Where: Anyplace, Bring: Ears ready to listen. Have the children decorate the invitations and exchange with each other. Tell them to put the invitation in a visible spot at home to remind them that they can talk to God.

Wrap-Up

Review the key principles and the key verse. Remind the children of all the ways in which God speaks to us on a daily basis. Remind the children to always be listening for God's voice.

Prayer Time: Lead the children in a time of prayer. Ask God to give each child ears to hear His voice.