

WEEK OF November 14 & 17
PRESCHOOL and KINDERGARTEN
LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

Step three, listen to God.

THE BIBLE

God Calls Samuel:
1 Samuel 3:1-10; 19-21

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | What's that Noise? Supplies needed: iPad, buzzers

- How many of you have ever helped a grownup cook in the kitchen? That's a lot of fun, right? I'm sure you've heard lots of different sounds when you were helping.
- Let's play a game. I will play a sound you might hear in the kitchen and listen to see if you can guess what it is!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather the children around a computer, tablet or cell phone. Play through as many kitchen sounds as time allows and see how many the kids can guess correctly!*

TRANSITION MUSIC

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | God Calls Samuel, Supplies needed: Bible

- Guess what time it is! It's time to tune in to the Bible story segment of The Plate It Cooking Show!
- Last week, we learned about how a woman named Hannah was very sad because she couldn't have a baby. She talked to God and promised that if she had a son, he would serve God his whole life. God answered Hannah's prayer, and Hannah's son became one of God's prophets.
 - **Who remembers what a prophet is?** A prophet was someone who delivered messages from God to the people.
 - **What was the name of Hannah's baby?** Samuel!

INSTRUCTIONS: *As you read or summarize 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-21, have kids repeat the Bible quotes and the accompanying motions to engage with the story.*

- Samuel grew up in the temple and served God with Eli the priest.

- But one night, he heard a voice say, "Samuel!" [*Cup your hands around your mouth and motion for kids to follow.*]
- Samuel thought Eli was calling him, so he ran to Eli's room and said, "Here I am. You called me." [*Run really fast in place and have kids copy you.*]
- But Eli was not the one who called to Samuel. Eli was sleeping. So, Eli said, "I did not call. Go back and lie down." [*Shake your head and point to the front. Have kids repeat the words and motions.*]
- Samuel was pretty sure there was no one else in the temple that could be talking to him. And then he heard it again! [*Repeat the above three motions and phrases two more times.*]
- Eli realized that it was God talking to Samuel. So, he told him, the next time he heard the voice, to say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." [*Cup your hands around your ears and have kids do the same.*]
- Samuel heard God's voice for the first time that night. After that, he always listened to God's voice and became a great prophet of God!

BIG IDEA | Step three, listen to God. Supplies needed: paper plate with BIG Idea written on it.

INSTRUCTIONS: *Create a new Big Idea plate for this week. Let's say today's Big Idea together . . . step three, listen to God!*

VIDEO | Plate It, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's video of Cali's World.*

ACTIVITY | Listening Servers, Supplies needed: none.

- In our Bible story today, Samuel heard God call his name many times.
- **Have you ever been to a restaurant where the person taking your order didn't even write anything down but remembered everything?**
- Let's practice our own listening skills by pretending to be servers at a restaurant.

LISTENING GAME: *The goal of this game is for teams to find each other based on careful listening.*

Supplies: None.

INSTRUCTIONS: Have the kids stand in a large circle. Go around the circle and quietly whisper to each of the kids whether they are a duck, pig, dog, or a sheep. When you say "go!" the kids need to get into groups with their fellow animals. They're only allowed to make the sound of the animal though, and they have to listen carefully to know who to group up with! The first group to get together is the winner.

We might not hear God's voice like Samuel did. But we can listen to God by listening to the grownups in our lives who care for us and help us follow God.

- So after you trust God and talk to God, don't forget **step three, listen to God!**

DISCUSSION TIME

ACTIVITY | Did You Call Me?

- What was the boy's name in our story today?
- What did Samuel hear in the middle of the night?
- Who did Samuel think was calling him?
- Who really called Samuel?

God called out to Samuel while everyone was asleep, but Samuel didn't know it was God! We need to pay attention to who is calling us. That's why we can't skip **step three, listen to God.**

ACTIVITY | Ears to Hear, Supplies needed: None.

INSTRUCTIONS: *If possible, take the children on a walk around your church. Pause in certain areas, have them close their eyes and instruct them to use their ears to listen for things around them.*

- What kinds of things did you hear?
- Our ears help us listen to sounds. But listening to God means more than hearing sounds. It's about doing what God wants us to do!
- What are some examples of listening to God?

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page, Supplies needed: coloring page, crayons, markers.

INSTRUCTIONS: *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse. For added fun, keep their coloring pages each week, and at the end of the month, bind them together to create a coloring page "recipe book" they can take home!*

ACTIVITY | Eli Says, Supplies needed: no supplies needed

INSTRUCTIONS: *Play a few rounds of Simon Says, giving the kids simple-to-follow commands. Substitute "Eli" for "Simon". Add in a component where whenever you say "Samuel!" while you play, kids have to pause and put a hand to their ear.*

ACTIVITY | Peas Tag, Supplies needed: Frozen bag of peas (in kitchen freezer)

INSTRUCTIONS: *This game will be a mixture of Hot Potato and Freeze Tag. Prepare a bag of frozen peas to play with. The kid that is "it" has the bag of frozen peas. When you play the music, the kid that is "it" will try to tag people. Anyone who is tagged must freeze on the spot for ten seconds, while whoever is "it" gives*

them the peas and runs away. After ten seconds, the kid that was "frozen" is now "it". When you stop the music, whoever is holding the peas is out!

PRAYER and BLESSING

Dear God, thank you for being near to us. We're listening! Help us to spend time with you and others who love you so we can always hear what you have to say to us. Amen.

Trace the sign of the cross on each child's forehead and say, "Be still and listen to what God has to say."

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.