Samuel

“Samuel Called by God”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

* The story of Hannah
* The story of Samuel being called by God
* The story of Saul becoming king
* The story of David and Goliath

Series Theme Verse: “He guards the paths of his faithful servants.” – 1 Samuel 2:9

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of Samuel being called by God to serve God.

Lesson Passage: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Materials Needed: Bibles, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points:

* What is the boy’s name (Hannah’s son)? (Samuel)
* What was Samuel doing? (“Ministering before the Lord under Eli” or serving God in the temple under the instruction and teaching of the head priest, Eli)
* Did God speak to people much at this time? (No, it was rare)
* Eli was getting older, what was it hard for him to do? (See because his eyesight was becoming weak)
* One night while Samuel was lying down in the temple, who called Samuel? (The Lord)
* What was Samuel’s response? (“Here I am” and he ran to Eli)
* Why did he run to Eli if the Lord had called him? (Because he thought Eli called him, remember that it was not often that God spoke in those days)
* What did Eli say when Samuel came running in? (I did not call you, go lay back down)
* What happened after Samuel laid back down? (The Lord called him again saying, “Samuel”)
* What did Samuel do? (Ran back to Eli thinking it was Eli calling him)
* Was it Eli? (No, Eli said it wasn’t him and told Samuel to go lie back down)
* Why did Samuel not know it was the Lord? (Because Samuel had never heard from God before)
* After Samuel laid down, what happened a third time?! (The Lord called him, saying “Samuel”)
* What did Samuel do, again? (Went to Eli thinking it was Eli who had called him)
* When Samuel went in a third time, what did Eli realize? (That it was the lord speaking to Samuel)
* What did Eli tell Samuel? (He told Samuel to go lay down again and if he is called again, say, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening”)
* Did Samuel do what Eli said? (Yes, when the Lord called a fourth time, Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”)
* After Samuel responded, he learned to listen to God and all of Israel realized Samuel was a prophet of God, or he heard from and spoke for God. Scripture says “The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up.”

The Story Retold:

* Sometimes it is hard for us to hear God when God speaks to us.
* Have students sit in a circle and play the phone call game.
* Whisper a phrase in the child’s ear next to you, but only whisper it once.
* Have them whisper the phrase in the ear of the child next to them.
* Repeat until the phrase gets back to the student on your other side.
* Have that student tell the phrase out loud and then compare it with the original.
* Do this several times, letting other students start the phone tree.
* Use the game to illustrate that we have to concentrate and be listening for God because it is not often that God speaks out loud these days.
* Ask students ways we hear God? (Through reading the Bible, praying, through other Christians, etc.)

The Story and Me:

* Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
* Have the students read the verse together.
* Explain to students that God wants us to listen to him, just like Samuel did.
  + Ask students in what ways we can listen to God.
* Give students an example of how you listen to God.
* Have students stand in the circle they are in and say the verse one word at a time around the circle.
* Do this several times, helping them learn the verse.