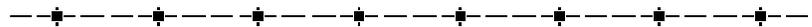


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

A Son is Given to God

Samuel

I Samuel 2

A Son is Given to God
I Samuel 2:18-26

Memory Verse:

My sheep listen to my voice;
I know them,
and they follow me.
(John 10:27NirV)

Lesson Goals:

1. Learn that Samuel was a boy when he went to live in the temple.
2. Learn that Samuel heard God's voice.
3. Recognize that Samuel spoke God's words.
4. Understand that Samuel pleased the Lord.

Last week we learned about Ruth. Ruth was a Moabite. She was loyal to her mother-in-law. Ruth chose to follow God. God blessed Ruth. She became the mother of Obed. Obed was a part of the lineage of Jesus.

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 2:18-26 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

This week we will learn about Samuel. You may remember we studied about Hannah. She was Samuel's mother. The Bible says she prayed for a son. God answered her prayer. Hannah had promised to give her son to the Lord. When he was old enough, she and her husband took Samuel to the temple. Hannah reminded Eli, the priest, that she was the woman who had prayed for a son. (I Samuel 1:24-27) She said, "I'm giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he'll be given to the Lord."

The Bible says that Hannah and her family worshiped the Lord there. (I Samuel 1:28 NirV)

Elkanah (Hannah's husband) and Hannah went home to Ramah. But Samuel stayed to serve the Lord. Eli, the priest, taught Samuel about being a priest for God. (I Samuel 2:11)

We don't know Samuel's exact age, only that he was a boy. The Bible says, "Samuel served the Lord. He wore a sacred linen apron." (I Samuel 2:18 NirV)

Samuel's family went to sacrifice in Shiloh each year. Every year Samuel's mother made a special robe for him. Do you remember someone else who received a special robe? (Joseph) The Bible says that Eli would speak a special word of blessing to Elkanah and Hannah. "He would say, 'May the Lord give you children by this woman. May they take the place of the boy she prayed for and gave to him.'" (I Samuel 2:20)

God was gracious to Hannah. He gave her three more sons and two daughters. During that time Samuel was growing up. He was serving the Lord in the temple. He was growing stronger. (I Samuel 2:21-26) "He also became more and more pleasing to the Lord and to people." (I Samuel 2:26 NirV)

At that time God sent very few messages to His people. Samuel served the Lord. Eli continued to teach Samuel about being a priest. (I Samuel 3:1) One night when Samuel was sleeping he heard a voice. At first he thought it was Eli, the priest. But when he went to ask him what he

Samuel—Bible Facts

1. Samuel was the son of Hannah.
2. Hannah gave Samuel to the Lord.
3. Eli, the priest, taught Samuel.
4. Samuel heard the voice of the Lord.
5. Samuel was a prophet.

needed, Eli would say that he did not call him. This happened twice. Eli told Samuel to go back to bed. He told Samuel that next time he heard the voice to say that he was listening. (I Samuel 3:1-10) The Bible says, “The Lord **came and stood there. He called out ... ‘Samuel! Samuel!’**” (I Samuel 3:10 NIV) So Samuel responded just as Eli told him to do. God gave Samuel a very sad message. Eli’s sons were doing bad things. Eli had not corrected them. God was going to punish them. Samuel did not tell Eli immediately. He went to bed. (I Samuel 3:10-15)

The next morning Eli called for Samuel. Samuel gave Eli the message from God. (I Samuel 3:15-19) God wants us to learn to hear His voice. The Bible says, “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” (John 10:27 NIV)

Samuel grew up. God made everything happen as He told Samuel. The people recognized that Samuel was a prophet of the Lord. (I Samuel 3:19-20)

Review questions

1. **Who was Samuel?** (Samuel was the son of Hannah and Elkanah.)
2. **What did Hannah do?** (Hannah gave Samuel to the Lord.)
3. **Who taught Samuel?** (Eli, the priest, taught Samuel.)
4. **What did Samuel hear?** (Samuel heard the voice of God.)
5. **What did Samuel become?** (Samuel was a prophet of God.)

Do you know Jesus?

The Bible says that if we belong to God we know His voice. God wants to give us eternal life so that we will not perish. When we belong to Him, no one can take us from Him. (I John 10: 27-29) In order to belong to Him, we must first invite Him to be a part of our lives. If we confess our sins, ask Him to forgive, and believe that Jesus, God’s Son, died on the cross and rose again, we can belong to Him. (Romans 10:9-10) Would you like to belong to Him and know His voice?

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can know God’s voice.
3. Ask God to help you hear and know His voice.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to belong to God.

Application

Hannah, Samuel’s mother, gave him to the Lord. Samuel was a boy when he went to live in the temple. Samuel heard God’s voice. God wants us to know His voice, too. God wants us to know Him and obey Him. Samuel told Eli the sad message from God. When we know God’s voice we must speak God’s words. Samuel pleased the Lord. We can please God by obeying Him. Samuel served the Lord. The people recognized that he was a prophet. When we walk in obedience to God, people will know that we belong to Him.

Planning for the next week:

Samson (A Foolish Son) — Judges 13-16

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: I Samuel 2:18-26 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

This week we will learn about Samuel. You may remember we studied about Hannah. She was Samuel's mother. The Bible says she prayed for a son. God answered her prayer. Hannah had promised to give her son to the Lord. When he was old enough, she and her husband took Samuel to the temple. Hannah reminded Eli, the priest, that she was the woman who had prayed for a son. (I Samuel 1:24-27) She said, "I'm giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he'll be given to the Lord." (I Samuel 1:28 NIV)

Elkanah (Hannah's husband) and Hannah went home to Ramah. But Samuel stayed and served the Lord. Eli, the priest, taught Samuel about being a priest for God. (I Samuel 2:11)

Samuel's family went to sacrifice in Shiloh each year. Every year Samuel's mother made a special robe for him. Do you remember someone else who received a special robe? (Joseph) The Bible says that Eli would speak a special word of blessing to Elkanah and Hannah. "He would say, 'May the Lord give you children by this woman. May they take the place of the boy she prayed for and gave to him.'" (I Samuel 2:20)

God sent Jesus so that we can know Him and learn to serve Him like Samuel did.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we can know Him.
3. Ask God to help family members who need to know God.

Did you know? Preschoolers can learn to serve.

Consider this: Tell the children you are going to have a work day. Clean toys with Clorox wipes (make sure the children are not allergic). Spray items in your area with Lysol.

You may also choose to pick up trash or dust tables and chairs. Allow the children to experience serving. Provide them with stickers that say, "I serve God."

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Cut out sheep using construction paper. Print the Bible verse on the sheep. Practice the Bible verse.
- **Test your memory** — Write key words or names from the story on index cards. Write the words twice. Add pictures to the index cards. You may use stickers that help the children recognize the words or names. After you have told the story have the children line up the pictures to play memory games (Concentration). Have the children retell the story.
- **Taste activity** — Bring salad for a snack. Tell the children that sheep eat weeds. A simple salad is made with spinach. Use fresh spinach and add a dressing made from raspberry vinaigrette mixed with strawberry jam. You may add sliced almonds or pecans. If the kids don't like salad you may serve colored candy grass. You may also bring cereal and add green food coloring to the milk.
- **Think about it** — Samuel's mother prayed for a son that she would give to God. She left him at the temple with the priest. We do not know how old Samuel was. His mother and father visited Samuel every year. Talk about what they must have felt.

Samuel did not know Eli the priest. Eli taught Samuel about serving God. Talk about someone who has influenced your life as a leader.

Samuel was God's prophet. He had to tell the people whatever God said. Read I Samuel 3 and talk about the message God gave to Samuel. Discuss the idea that the truth is not always fun to tell.

- **Touch activity** — Make sheep out of card stock. Add a black nose, eyes and hooves. Check the internet for ideas. Talk about listening to God's voice.
- **Run and play** — Sheep are not very smart animals. They are always looking for greener pastures. Put up signs that say, "Green Pasture," "Greener Pastures," and "Greenest Pastures." Have the children run races from one area to the other and back.
- **Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that God wants us to learn to hear His voice and to obey.
- **Sing** — Sing "I Don't Want to Be a Pharisee," "Obedience Is," or other songs based on Scripture.

Memory Verse

My sheep
listen to
my voice;
I know them,
and they
follow me.

John 10:27 NIV

Word Art

Trace the letters.

Samuel

heard

God's

voice.

Word Puzzle

V S D N A B S E H J S I
H A M A R Z E L I H M W
H C S H E J L K E O O O
E R D C T I E A A L N L
S I L U K U G N E I E L
I F F O J B R A E M G O
M I N V O E S H E E P F
E C I O V O B A B K C K
R E Z O A E M N I E L N
L E U M A S I N Y D D U
H R N P D O F A O H O H
W P Z V X T K H E R Y W

SAMUEL

HANNAH

ELKANAH

ELI

RAMAH

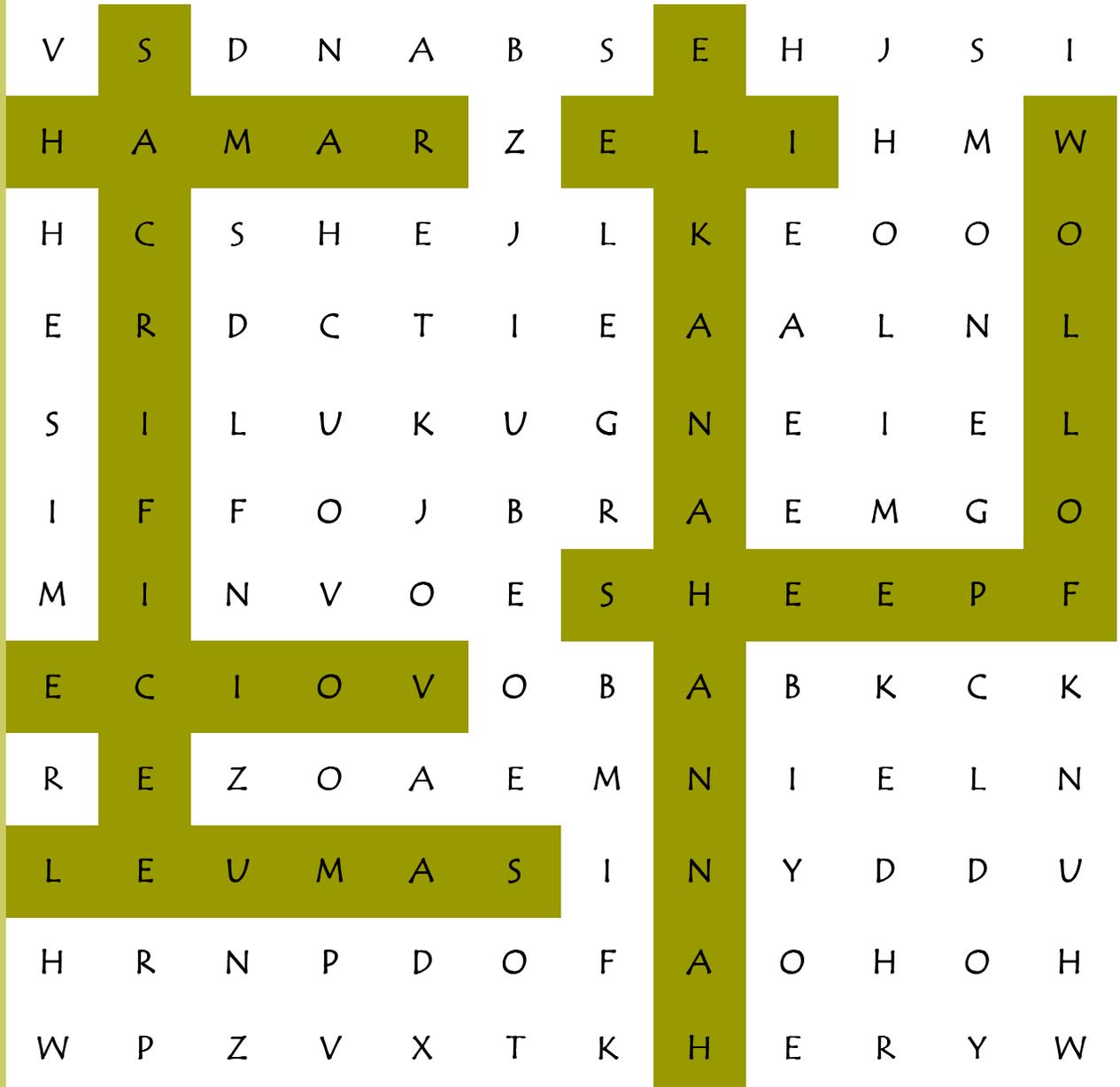
SACRIFICE

SHEEP

VOICE

FOLLOW

Word Puzzle



SAMUEL

HANNAH

ELKANAH

ELI

RAMAH

SACRIFICE

SHEEP

VOICE

FOLLOW

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F R G C D T S A M U E L
P D B K P U H N S J Q R
W C X V Y P R O P H E T
R A M A H J M K D B C H
M N J B C F H A N N A H
B R P B V L Z G M U K L
E L I J M E P R I E S T
R F G F B K D R C W V Q

SAMUEL

PROPHET

HANNAH

ELI

PRIEST

RAMAH

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

F R G C D T S A M U E L

P D B K P U H N S J Q R

W C X V Y P R O P H E T

R A M A H J M K D B C H

M N J B C F H A N N A H

B R P B V L Z G M U K L

E L I J M E P R I E S T

R F G F B K D R C W V Q

SAMUEL

PROPHET

HANNAH

ELI

PRIEST

RAMAH

Anagram

1. DPERYA-
2. DWEOPRISH-
3. RDEASTUHG-
4. SSNO-
5. REWG-
6. TPERHOP-
7. TPSREI-
8. GPNLIESA-

Anagram

1. DPERYA– PRAYED
2. DWEOPRISH– WORSHIPED
3. RDEASTUHG– DAUGHTERS
4. SSNO– SONS
5. REWG– GREW
6. TPERHOP– PROPHET
7. TPSREI– PRIEST
8. GPNLIESA– PLEASING