



elev8

life on another level

Student Workbook

YEAR 3

God's People
Kings and Prophets
– Samuel

Bible Readings

1 Samuel 1-3

1 Samuel 7



Learning Outcomes

At the end of this week you will be able to:

- See that God speaks to His people
- God's voice often sounds "normal"
- Listening to and acting on God's voice give the best life possible

Notes from Bible Reading

Scripture A word or phrase that stood out to me:

Observation What is happening in this Bible reading?

Application Something that I learned about who I am or how I should live:

Prayer What I would like to say to God, ask of God, or what I think God is saying to me:

Key Question How do we recognise God's voice?

Engage

Go around the group and share one thing for each heading that has happened since you last met:

- Plus – What has been good or enjoyable?
- Minus – What has been difficult or painful?
- Interesting – What has been unusual or thought provoking?

Do you know anyone (maybe yourself) who was dedicated to God as an infant?

Explore – Locate

- *What stood out to you in the Bible readings this week?*
- *What did you find meaningful or significant?*
- *Is there anything that you didn't understand or found confusing?*
- *Any questions or comments you may have?*

Read together: Samuel 3:1-10, 19-21.

Samuel was pre-dedicated to God by his mother Hannah. During that era it was considered shameful for a woman to not have children. Hannah prayed for a child and offered to dedicate him to God for his whole life. Samuel was that child.

Samuel physically lived with Eli the priest and it was there God spoke to him (chapter 3). Initially Samuel didn't recognise the voice he heard as God. In fact he thought it was Eli. However when Samuel realised, and listened, God spoke in a clear way. Verse 19 is a key one – 'as Samuel grew up the Lord was with him'.

This was a great start to Samuel's life. At an early age he spent time listening to God to the point where 'when Samuel spoke all Israel listened' (verse 21).

Samuel went on to be used by God to assist Israel's transition from a loosely governed tribal people to a monarchy. He anointed the first 2 kings of Israel (Saul and David) and was the last, and arguably the most effective, of Israel's judges.

Explore – Express

Re-enact the scene where Samuel is sleeping and hears the voice calling his name (chapter 3). In turns each group member uses 3 different voices with the group trying to guess whose voice is being used.

Some suggestions would be:

- Famous TV character
- Politician
- Teacher (be kind!)
- God (as you might imagine Him to sound)
- Eli (as you might imagine him to sound)
- Yourself! (see if they can guess that one)

Explore – Integrate

- How did God's voice sound if Samuel mistook it for Eli?
- How can you listen to God's voice in day to day life?
- In what ways has God spoken to you in the past? Feel free to share what he said with the group if you wish, but you don't have to.

Extend

Discuss with your group the challenges you are tackling. Use the time to ask for any help you might need.

Questions that may be helpful include:

- What challenges are you working on at the moment?
- Do you need any support or assistance?
- Are there any challenges that you have completed that we need to recognise and celebrate?
- Are there any new challenges that you want to work on?

Encourage

Tell another student in your group something you value or appreciate about them.

Share one thing you would like to pray for and pray for one another.

Thank you Lord that you speak to us. Help us to recognise your voice, to listen to your words and to do as you say.

Amen.