

# 39. Samuel Is Called

## *The Word of the Lord: The Old Testament for Young Children*

### Notes for Parents & Teachers

#### 39. Samuel Is Called

- a. Go through the three times the Lord called Samuel. He did not know what to do, but Eli told him.
- b. Maybe you can tell them that when they are reading the Word it is like the Lord calling to them, and they can think they are servants who hear Him telling them what to do, and leading them to be happy.
- c. It was very hard for Samuel to tell Eli, the special priest, that his sons were bad and he, Eli, had not controlled them. They had done very bad things, and were turning people away from the Lord and His tabernacle.
- d. Everyone knew that Samuel would be a great prophet.



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## The Lord Calls Samuel to Be His Prophet

Now Eli grew old and his eyes could not see well anymore. He was lying down in his place, and Samuel was lying down in the temple near where the ark of the Lord was.

And the Lord called Samuel. And he answered, “Here I am.” And he ran to Eli and said, “You called me.” And Eli said, “I did not call you, lie down.” And Samuel went and lay down.

And the Lord called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel went to Eli and said, “You called me.” Eli said, “I did not call, my son. Go back and lie down.”

Then the Lord called Samuel again a third time. Samuel went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you did call me.” Then Eli understood that the Lord had called Samuel. And Eli said to Samuel, “Go lie down and if God calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak Lord, for your servant hears.’”

Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the Lord came and stood and called as at the other times, “Samuel, Samuel!”, and Samuel said, “Speak Lord, for your servant hears.”

And the Lord said to Samuel, “Eli’s sons have acted sinfully and they have not followed Me, nor has Eli stopped them in their wrong doing, so they shall not be priests.” Then Samuel was afraid to tell Eli what the Lord had said, but Eli said to him, “Samuel, what did the Lord say to you? Please tell me.” And Samuel told him all the words that the Lord had told him.

Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him. And all of Israel knew that Samuel was like a prophet to the Lord.

1 Samuel 3

