

1 Samuel 3 – God is calling!

At first, Samuel didn't recognize God's voice. God continued to call Samuel, and soon he understood that God had a message for him and wanted him to be His follower and to serve Him. Samuel wanted to hear what God had to say, and he responded, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening"! What a beautiful way to respond to God!

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 3:19 NLT

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable.

Big Idea: God speaks and continues to call people today!! This lesson's focus is on hearing God and trusting Him! God called Samuel as a young boy, (possibly at 12 yrs old) he heard God's voice and obeyed and trusted Him with his life. Working as a missionary in another country is a lot about trust, AND about trusting God to do His work through them. This fits with the mission of Awana GO. God called Samuel as a boy to be his follower and to do His will just as God is calling many in Mongolia to be His followers and workers today!

Will you hear God's call and respond as Samuel did?

Point...

1. Why does Samuel run to Eli?
Samuel was an obedient boy and he thought that Eli had called him. He quickly ran to Eli because he was blind and may need help.
2. Does God call more than once? In our reading it says, "the Lord called again" so we can learn that God calls more than once. If he is calling us to do something, he will confirm it sometimes through a variety of ways and one is through godly people.
3. Our scripture says Eli told Samuel to say, "speak Lord for your servant hears"! This was wise advice! What Eli was actually saying was:

Make yourself available to God, listen for Him – "go lie down"
Don't be presumptuous about God speaking – "if He calls you"
Respond to the word of God – "speak Lord"
Be humble before God and His word – "your servant hears"

Point 1 – questions:

Are you ready like Samuel, to hear what God wants to say to you? Have you heard God calling you to trust in Jesus as your Saviour? 1 Timothy 2:4 says that God wants all people to be saved. He uses His Word to draw people to Himself. Romans 10:17 says that “faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ.” Have you trusted Him to be your Saviour? 2 Corinthians 6:2 says that “now is the day of salvation.” If God is calling you to trust in Jesus don’t ignore His call. Do it today. (See also Ecclesiastes 12:1)

God uses His Word to draw people to Himself. He continues to speak through His Word, through the testimonies of other Christians/missionaries, through the advice of godly people, through missionary stories and biographies, as well as through our own interests and gifts.

Can you remember a verse from the Bible that really stuck out to you and helped you to understand what Jesus did on the cross for you? Sharing that verse with someone else may help them come to Jesus for salvation too!

Point 2 – questions:

Maybe while reading the Bible you were impressed with the fact that you were doing something that you knew you shouldn’t do? This is another way we “hear from God”, through His word. When He speaks to us in this way, we should always obey immediately. In your handbook sin is defined as “anything we think, say or do that disobeys God; sin is also not doing the good things God wants us to do.”

Can you remember a time that God used His Word to call you to do something specific? Maybe it was something like inviting a friend to Awana or telling someone about Jesus? God is pleased when we obey His promptings.

Point 3 – question:

God uses His word to show us how to live to please Him and help us become more like His Son Jesus Christ. When we read God’s Word, we should ask Him to show us what He wants us to do. What are some things God has said to you from His word?
How do we make ourselves available to God?

What can you do?

1. Pray for the kids in Mongolia to hear the voice of God and respond to it.
2. Pray for the church leaders in Mongolia who are waiting to be trained to start Awana in their church, so they can share the Good News with more children.
3. What are you trusting God for in your everyday life?
4. What are you trusting God to do in places like Mongolia?