



God who called Samuel

Scriptures: I Samuel 1:19-28, 3, 7

Hannah earnestly prayed to God for a child.

God answered her prayer by giving her a son. Hannah named her son, Samuel.

Samuel served God in the temple from an early age.

One night, when Samuel was ready to sleep, a voice called out his name.

Samuel ran to Eli because he thought the voice he heard was Eli's.

"I didn't call you, Eli said."

A voice called out Samuel's name the second and the third time. He got up and went to Eli each time he heard the voice.

Eli finally realized that it was God who was calling Samuel and told him what to say when the voice calls him again.

Samuel lied down to sleep, and again the voice called out his name,

"Samuel, Samuel."

Samuel answered,

"Yes, Lord, the servant of the Lord is now listening."



God said that He would punish Eli and his two sons because Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, had committed severe sins before God.

The next day, Samuel told Eli everything that he heard.

God made everything Samuel said come true.

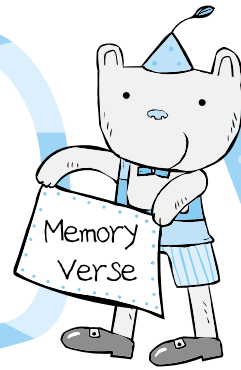
And the people of Israel knew that God had set Samuel as the judge.

20 years have passed.

Samuel gathered the people of Israel and spoke,



Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. (Psalms 119:11)



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"If you truly want to return to God, get rid of foreign idols and worship only Him."

Israelites got rid of idols and began worshiping only the Lord.

When the Philistines attacked the people of Israel, Samuel sacrificed a burnt offering and entreated the Lord to deliver Israel. The Lord answered his prayer and defeated Philistines by sending rains and thunders.

For as long as Samuel lived, God protected Israel.





Today's Study

Calling of Samuel

1. How did Samuel answer the fourth calling of the Lord?

2. How did the people of Israel know that Samuel was the prophet? ()

- a) Samuel performed a great miracle
- b) The Lord made what Samuel said come true
- c) Samuel was handsome and good at speech

Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.
(1 Samuel 3:19)

The people of Israel heard what Samuel said

1. What did Samuel speak to the people of Israel? (1 Samuel 7:3)

2. What did the people of Israel do after hearing Samuel's words?

The Lord spoke to the people through Samuel and the people did according to the words of the Lord.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:7)



Today's Lesson

The people of Israel knew what God's will from the words He spoke through Samuel.

1. How can we know God's will in our time? Look at the following pictures and answer.



2. Read either Romans, chapter 12 or Ephesians, chapter 6. What is the nucleus God is trying to communicate to you through these verses?

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God teaches us His will through the Scriptures. We should obey the Scriptures.



Did you know?

* Hophni and Phinehas

Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were very dishonest. Even though their father was priest, they didn't know God. While people were boiling the meat from their sacrifices, God would set some part to be taken back to the priest. But, they took any part by sticking the fork into the cooking pot. Moreover, though they should take the meat after offering to God, they took the meat before giving a sacrifice. Eli's sons did not show any respect for God and behave with their own will. They finally died at the war with Philistines according to the warning of God. God want us to fear Him and be holy by serving Him.

Teacher

Parents