

Samuel Listens to God

Reader



Words included in text: (in the order in which they appear)

A_E	I_E	O_E	U_E
gave	time	chose(n)	tune(d)
name(d)	wise	home	rule
made	side	doze(d)	huge
care(s)	strike	woke	cute
came	twice	whole	mute
late	tribe	spoke	confuse(d)
place	pride	throne	rule
shame	wipe	broke	use(d)
safe	smile		
take			
brave			
fame			
save(d)			

Vocabulary Words—These may be words that you need to discuss the meaning of or pronunciation before reading:

judges, promised, mute, listen, enemy(ies)

This text was written at a first grade level (based on the phonics skills and sight words chosen). The length of the text may be longer than your child is accustomed to. It may help to read the text TO your child on the first day. On subsequent readings, you can offer to share the reading, taking turns. Gradually release the responsibility and limit support as it is re-read.

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Samuel Listens to God

1 Samuel, chapters 1 - 16



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Some time went by and Israel once again tuned out God. He gave His people judges to rule, but they still chose not to listen to Him. But there was a wise woman named Hannah. She could not have any children, which made her very sad.



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While at the temple, she took her cares to God and promised Him something huge! If He would give her a baby, she would bring him back to the temple to live. Eli, the priest, saw her. He blessed her before she left to go home.



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Hannah's cute baby boy came! She named him Samuel. When the time was right, she took him back to the temple to live with Eli.

God was not mute with Samuel. Late one night, the Lord called Samuel's name as he dozed. Samuel woke and ran to Eli's side, thinking Eli had called him. After three times, Eli told Samuel to go back to his place and listen to God's Words.



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As Samuel grew, the whole land of Israel listened as he spoke God's Word. God's people felt shame for their sin. They all met in one place as Samuel prayed to God. The enemies of God saw the Israelites in one place and came to strike them. But God sent a bad storm that confused the enemy and kept God's people safe.



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When Samuel became old, some men of Israel came to him twice and said, "We want a king to rule on the throne." Samuel did not think this was a wise idea. God was their King. Samuel took his cares to God and listened to what He had to say. God told Samuel, "My people have tuned me out. Give them a king to rule over them."



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God told Samuel to look for a man from a small Israelite tribe. He would take the throne. When Samuel saw Saul, Samuel told him that God had chosen him to rule. Saul stayed with Samuel that night. Before Saul went home the next day, Samuel used oil on Saul's head. He said, "God has chosen you to be king."

Saul became a brave king. He had a huge army that went to war many times. Every time, Israel would win. But Saul had pride in his fame and began to tune out God.



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One time, God told him to take the land and wipe it *all* the enemy. But Saul saved the king and the best animals from the land. Samuel said, "You broke God's rule. Now, God will take away the throne from your family." Samuel was very upset that Saul had tuned out God.

But God spoke. "I have a new man to take the throne, a son of Jesse." So Samuel went to Jesse's home place and met with the people. Jesse came with his oldest sons. Could one of these be the next king?



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As Samuel looked over Jesse's sons, God said, "I have not chosen these." Jesse called for one more son - David. When Samuel saw him, God said, "He will take the throne." Samuel used oil on David's head so all would know that God had chosen him. Samuel went home with a smile, for he had listened to God.