



# Messages From God

The Story — Lesson 10

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 1—10

**Key Verse:** The Lord has filled my heart with joy. He has made me strong. —1 Samuel 2:1, NIV

**Bible Truth:** God uses willing hearts to serve Him.

**Age 2—rising 2nd grade:** Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 10: “God Hears Hannah and Samuel”

**Rising 3rd—6th grades:** Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 10: “Messages From God”

## STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you’re going to spend a few minutes studying God’s word together. Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for calling us to himself.

While your younger children are seated around you, try to get their attention by whispering. Ask, **Can you hear me?** Keep asking until they respond. Continue to whisper, but clap loudly or rustle paper to make it difficult to hear your voice. Ask, **Can you hear me now? Is it easier to hear when there’s no noise? What kinds of noises make it difficult to hear sometimes?** Say, **“Today’s Bible story is about a woman and a boy. The woman talked to God, and he heard her. God talked to the boy, but the boy had to learn to listen and talk.”**

For your older children, gather several simple items that make identifiable sounds, such as book pages to flip, cards to shuffle, paper clips to jingle, pencil to tap, water to pour from one cup to another, a small ball to bounce, a spoon to clink against a glass. Keep these items out of sight and ask your kids how good they think they are at listening. Say, **Let’s see if you can tell me what sounds I’m making.** Have the children close their eyes. No peeking! Make sounds one at a time and pause for your kids to identify them. Let them open their eyes. Ask: **Do you think you would have heard all those sounds if we weren’t listening quietly? Why is it sometimes hard to listen quietly?** Say, **In today’s Bible story, we’ll meet a mother and son who learned how to listen to messages from God.**

## STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today’s story from your copy of *The Story*, or read 1 Samuel 1:1—2:11.

## STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today’s story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer.

**Question 6:** Is there more than one true God? (No, there is only one true God.)

**Question 7:** In how many persons does this one God exist? (In three persons.)

**Question 8:** Name the persons. (The Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit)

## STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) Acts 3:24 in your Bible. Samuel is specifically mentioned in the book of Acts as a prophet whose life and message pointed to Jesus. In our story, Hannah cried out to the Lord to give her a son and committed him to the Lord for God’s service. Little did she realize her little boy would be used to anoint the first two kings of Israel. Samuel anointed Saul and thus established anointing as God’s means of indicating his choice. Later Samuel anointed David, out of whose household the Savior would be born.

## MONDAY .....

**Read** 1 Samuel 2:26

**Ask** How did Samuel grow?

**Read** Luke 2:52

**Pray** and ask God to help grow in wisdom as you learn more about him.

## TUESDAY .....

**Read** 1 Samuel 3:6-7

**Ask** Who did Samuel not know yet?

**Read** Acts 16:14

**Pray** and thank God for opening the hearts of his children so that we can understand and believe his word.

## WEDNESDAY .....

**Read** 1 Samuel 3:10

**Ask** What did Samuel say to the Lord?

**Read** Isaiah 6:8

**Pray** and ask God to make you bold to respond and act when you hear him speaking..

## THURSDAY .....

**Read** 1 Samuel 7:3

**Ask** Where did Samuel tell the people to direct their hearts?

**Read** Proverbs 3:5

**Pray** and ask the Holy Spirit to help you love God with your whole heart.

## FRIDAY .....

**Read** 1 Samuel 8:4-5

**Ask** What did the people of Israel want?

**Read** Revelation 19:15-16

**Pray** and thank God for sending his Son Jesus to be our final, perfect king, who rules over us and redeems us so that we can be part of his forever family!