

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



1.12

GOD IS WITH US

Part of The Big God Story

1 Samuel 3

Although young Samuel served God in the house of worship, he didn't know God's voice. One night, God called him by name and Samuel listened. As Samuel grew up, God was with him and he served God as a leader of Israel.

JUST FOR FUN

Read this part of The Big God Story right before bedtime. Have everyone be quiet for one minute and listen to the noises of the night. Then discuss together what you heard. Share with your children that you're going to read about Samuel and how he was sleeping when God called to him. Read **1 Samuel 3:1-10**. Ask your children why they think Samuel thought it was Eli calling him. Then ask, "How did Eli tell Samuel to answer once he realized it was the Lord who was calling Samuel?" Pray together. Ask God to help each member of your family respond in the same way when God calls them.

Did You Know?

- After many years of the Israelites' disobedience, God removed His voice from the people of Israel, and there was no biblical record of Him speaking through His prophets.
- When he was still a young boy, Samuel heard God's voice and began to impart God's words to the people of Israel.
- As he grew, Samuel continued to lead God's people and speak His words to them.

Remember Verse

For what you have done I will always praise you in the presence of your faithful people. And I will hope in your name, for your name is good.
Psalm 52:9

Though your child may appear to accept the idea that God is with us all the time, she may also be confused since she can't see Him. Be sure to take the time to answer your child's questions about this concept to help clear up any misconceptions.

Teachable Moments

After reading Scripture, discuss the following together:

- What do you think it was like for Samuel to hear God's voice?
- How can we know that God is with us today?
- How can we serve those around us?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), may the Lord be with you as you grow up. May you listen for God's voice and run to serve Him and others.