



Visions and Voices: Resources for Intergenerational Worship June 3 Pentecost 2 Year B

Bible Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10



What this is: Bible Engagement



Where it's used: In any intergenerational gathering, Bible Reading, Early Word



Time: 7-10 minutes

• various colours



Bible focus/theme: 1 Sam 3:1-11



What's needed:

- Copy of text on screen or printed with words beginning with the letter S highlighted in blue and all other words hidden
- Copy of text on screen or printed with words beginning with the letter S highlighted in blue
- Copy of text on screen or printed with key words highlighted in various colours as indicated but all other words hidden
- Copy of text on screen or printed with key words highlighted in various colours as indicated
- Display of Chris Booth's art image 'Samuel.'

Introduction

Here we have our Bible reading for today - which I'm going to invite all the grown ups to read together. This shouldn't be too hard, but just to be sure we keep together on this, I've asked [name] to lead us.

The words are on the screen - so grown ups could you read for us please.

Lead reading of just the blue words.

Now the boy **Samuel**
was ministering to the LORD under Eli.
The word of the LORD was rare in those days;
visions were not widespread.
At that time Eli,
whose eye **sight** had begun to grow dim **so** that he could not **see**,
was lying down in his room;
the lamp of God had not yet gone out,
and **Samuel** was lying down
in the temple of the LORD,
where the ark of God was.
Then the LORD called,
"Samuel! Samuel!" and he **said**, "Here I am!"
and ran to Eli, and **said**, "Here I am, for you called me." But he **said**, "I did not
call; lie down again." **So** he went and lay down.
The LORD called again, **"Samuel!"** **Samuel** got up and went to Eli, and **said**, "Here
I am, for you called me." But he **said**, "I did not call, my **son**; lie down again."
Now **Samuel** did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet
been revealed to him.
The LORD called **Samuel** again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli,
and **said**, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was
calling the boy.
Therefore Eli **said** to **Samuel**, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall **say**,
'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" **So Samuel** went and lay down in his
place.
Now the LORD came and **stood** there, calling as before, **"Samuel! Samuel!"** And
Samuel said, **"Speak**, for your **servant** is listening."
Then the LORD **said** to **Samuel**, **"See**, I am about to do **something** in Israel that
will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

Thanks grown-ups. Though it seems that quite a bit of the message has been hidden.
Let's see if we can uncover that.

*Move to next screen with full text in black with words beginning with S
highlighted.*

Now the boy **Samuel** was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eye-**sight** had begun to grow dim **so** that he could not **see**, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and **Samuel** was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "**Samuel! Samuel!**" and he **said**, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and **said**, "Here I am, for you called me." But he **said**, "I did not call; lie down again." **So** he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "**Samuel!**" **Samuel** got up and went to Eli, and **said**, "Here I am, for you called me." But he **said**, "I did not call, my **son**; lie down again." Now **Samuel** did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called **Samuel** again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and **said**, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli **said** to **Samuel**, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall **say**, '**Speak**, LORD, for your **servant** is listening.'" **So Samuel** went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and **stood** there, calling as before, "**Samuel! Samuel!**" And **Samuel said**, "**Speak**, for your **servant** is listening." Then the LORD **said** to **Samuel**, "**See**, I am about to do **something** in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle."

Great! You know in this story we're about to read - the adults Eli and his grown up sons had lost sight of God's message. And it was a child Samuel, who God gave a message to.

So as we read this part from the Bible, and listen for what God is saying to us today, let's have not just the grown ups, but also all the children reading the words in blue, as our leader reader reads the rest of the text in black.

Read the text together as above.

Much better having the children read with us, all together, and much better not hidden.

We're going to read again though, because there is more to uncover in this story.

Display text with variously coloured words, but main text hidden.

Now the boy Samuel
was ministering to the LORD under Eli.
The word of the LORD was rare in those days;
visions were not widespread.
At that time Eli,
whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see,
was lying down in his room;
the lamp of God had not yet gone out,
and Samuel was lying down
in the temple of the LORD,
where the ark of God was.
Then the LORD called,
“Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!”
and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call;
lie down again.” So he went and lay down.
The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I
am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”
Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet
been revealed to him.
The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and
said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling
the boy.
Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say,
‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his
place.
Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And
Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”
Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will
make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

*Divide your group into 5 teams and allocate a colour to each team.
It can be helpful to have a piece of A4 paper or card, or a cluster of streamers in each color for someone in each team to hold up each time one of the teams words arises in the passage.*

Once you have allocated the teams by colour identify the word or kind of phrase each team is going to call out.

words about lying down

words about seeing/vision/light

Words about calling

The Phrase Here I am!

Words about the things 'of the Lord/of God'

Give the teams a little time to check through the passage again and find their words, helping one another to do this.

*Give each team a practice of just their words.
eg:*

lying down. lying down, lie down, lay down, lie down, lie down, lay down.

visions, eyesight, dim, see, revealed, perceived

called, called, call; called, called, call, called, called, calling, calls, calling

"Here I am!" "Here I am, "Here I am, "Here I am"

word of the LORD, lamp of God, temple of the LORD, ark of God, word of the LORD

After each team rehearsing their words, put it together, reading from the slide with just the coloured words in place, with the rest of the text hidden.

Then reveal the whole text and read once more.

Now the boy Samuel

was ministering to the LORD under Eli.

The word of the LORD was rare in those days;

visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli,

whose eyesight had begun to grow **dim** so that he could not **see**,

was lying down in his room;

the **lamp of God** had not yet gone out,
and Samuel was **lying down**
in the **temple of the LORD**,
where the **ark of God** was.

Then the LORD **called**,

“Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “**Here I am!**”

and ran to Eli, and said, “**Here I am**, for you **called** me.” But he said, “I did not **call**;
lie down again.” So he went and **lay down**.

The LORD **called** again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “**Here I am**, for you **called** me.” But he said, “I did not **call**, my son; **lie down** again.”

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the **word of the LORD** had not yet been **revealed** to him.

The LORD **called** Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “**Here I am**, for you **called** me.” Then Eli **perceived** that the LORD was **calling** the boy.

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, **lie down**; and if he **calls** you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and **lay down** in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, **calling** as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

Conclusion

Great job, teams. We have helped each other hear the word of God in different ways. Our children have been important in our listening, our grown ups have been helpful in our hearing.

Let's pray

Loving God,

You speak to us when we are half asleep and least expecting you.

You speak to us in darkness

You speak to us even before we know you

You speak to us as children

You speak to us again when we didn't get it the first time

You speak to us not only for ourselves but with words for others

May we listen for your voice, and find our voice of 'Here I am' for you.

Amen.