

SUMMER 2024

Unit 1, Session 1

CONNECTION POINT:

God called humanity to rule over His creation.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Many people question the purpose of life or what their purpose is. Some may wonder if there is a purpose at all, but from the very beginning, God blessed us with a purpose: He blessed us to be His image bearers as we steward the creation around us. God's promise has not changed although we have marred the image of God within us through our sin.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; 2:18-26; 3:1-21

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Tell your child that God is real. Talk about other Bible stories your preschooler know which tell about things God did to help people.

Hannah prayed for Samuel and promised she would give him to God. When Samuel was a very young boy, his mother took him to the tent church in Shiloh.

Hannah told Eli, the priest, that she wanted Samuel to be his helper at church. She asked Eli to teach Samuel about serving and following God.

Samuel's mother brought Samuel a new robe each year when she visited him. Samuel grew, and God was pleased with him. The people of Israel also liked Samuel.

When Samuel was lying down to sleep, God called his name, "Samuel!" Samuel thought that Eli was calling him. God called to Samuel three times. The fourth time God called him, Eli helped Samuel to know that God was calling him.

Samuel told the people what God wanted them to know. People listened to Samuel.

KIDS

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; 2:18-26; 3

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Encourage your child to write to one of your church staff, asking about his call to ministry. Pray, thanking God for people called to work for the church.

When Samuel was a young child, his mother took him to live at the tent church in Shiloh. Eli, the priest, took in Samuel and taught him how to serve God.

Each year, Samuel's mother visited. Samuel stayed in the temple to serve God. Eli's sons who worked at the temple did not obey God. Eli told them to obey God, but they did not listen.

Samuel was lying in his sleeping place. God called to Samuel, and Samuel answered, "Here I am." He ran and told Eli that he heard him call. Eli told Samuel he didn't call him. Samuel went back to lie down.

The third time this happened, Eli told Samuel what to do if God called again. God gave Samuel an important message for Eli.

Samuel grew up, and God was with him in everything he did.

STUDENTS

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-30; 2:16-17; 3:16-19

- In your own words, what does it mean that we are made in God's image?
- Why is it so important to understand that we are saved by grace?
- What is the significance of God's giving good news before pronouncing the bad news?

Live It Out: In Genesis 1:26-28, we read of the first blessing God pronounced over people created in His image. He blessed them and said to be fruitful and multiply and to exercise authority over creation, specifically in ways that reflect His nature and character. Today, we are called to that responsibility and blessing—to live in ways that reflect the glory and goodness of Jesus and to exercise authority as God would have us to.

For us to reflect God, we must first know Him intimately. What are you currently doing to grow in your relationship with God? What faithful practice could you begin as a family in order to know God more deeply? Commit right now to faithfully maintaining these habits.