



## God Calls Samuel

**BIG IDEA:** God knows us by name and calls to us, so we can listen for His voice.

**BIBLE BASIS:** 1 Samuel 2–3

**KEY VERSE:** “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me.”  
John 10:27 (*NirV*)

### ★ BIBLE STORY

Watch the “Journey Today Show” on JAM Family Church. Have your Bible ready to look up the story!

### ★ APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

#### COLORING OR ACTIVITY PAGE & QUESTIONS

As you color, use the questions to unpack the story.

1. What do you think it would be like to hear God talking to you? How do you think it would feel?
2. Why do you think God chose to give the message to Samuel instead of just telling Eli?

#### THE LISTENING LAUNCHER (Application Activity)

Our Bible verse for today says, “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me.” Listening to God’s voice is one of the most important things we can do as followers of Jesus, but sometimes that can be kind of tough. We’re going to play a game right now that will help us talk about some of the reasons we don’t hear God’s voice more often.

Make a Mini Marshmallow Launcher as in the picture (Cut off balloon bottom and disposable cup bottom. Stretch balloon over the bottom of the cup as tight as possible). Launch marshmallows by putting them in the cup and pulling the end of the balloon. Launch them toward 6 cups (or bowls) that you have placed in a cluster a few feet away from you. Do a few practice rounds and then take turns launching the marshmallows. When the ball lands in one of the cups, remove the cup from the cluster and read the “Obstacle to Listening” (listed below) that corresponds with the number on that cup. Talk about what you need to do to overcome that obstacle. Keep launching until you have hit every numbered cup.



#### OBSTACLES TO LISTENING:

1. I’m too busy to stop and listen to God.
2. There’s too much noise and too many distractions for me to listen to God.
3. I always forget to listen to God.
4. There’s too much noise in my brain. I can’t hear what God is saying.
5. It’s too hard. I don’t hear anything when I listen to God.
6. Free play. Ask the kids to come up with reasons they don’t listen for God’s voice more often.

#### SHOW ME PRAYERS (Prayer Activity)

Ask everyone to think of something that they need prayer for. Choose someone share first, but instead of sharing their request aloud, ask them to show their prayer request as a charade. Everyone else guess the prayer request. When guessed, invite the person to verbally share specifics of the request. As people share, write their request down. When finished, pray together through the list.