



Adult BIBLE Teacher

For Teachers of Adults Ages 26 & Up

SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2022



Union
Gospel
Press

Adult Bible Teacher

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Servants and Healers

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Study and Worship

(Readings are for the week previous to the lesson topics.)

1. June 5. Samuel's Call and Ministry

M — Eli and His Sons Are Rejected. I Sam. 2:22-24, 27-36.
T — Use God's Gifts. I Pet. 4:7-11.
W — Called to Sacrifice. Judg. 2:16-23.
T — "Follow Me." Matt. 4:18-22.
F — The Birth of Samuel. I Sam. 1:1-20.
S — The Dedication of Samuel. I Sam. 1:21-28.
S — Samuel Listens to the Lord. I Sam. 3:1-9, 19-20; 7:3-5, 10, 12.

2. June 12. Isaiah's Commission

M — Be Holy! I Pet. 1:13-16.
T — God Has No Equal. Isa. 40:12-26.
W — Jesus Our Perfect High Priest. Heb. 7:22-28.
T — A Vision of Christ in Glory. Rev. 1:12-20.
F — Jesus Transfigured. Matt. 17:1-7.
S — Who Is Like God? Ps. 89:1-8.
S — Isaiah's Vision of the Lord. Isa. 6:1-8.

3. June 19. Asaph's Lament

M — The Wicked Prosper. Job 21:1-16.
T — The Wicked Will Be Judged. Job 21:17-34.
W — The Lord Is My Portion. Ps. 119:57-64.
T — The King of Glory. Ps. 24:1-10.
F — The Rock of My Salvation. Ps. 18:1-3, 46-50.
S — God's Love Is Steadfast. Ps. 5:1-12.
S — The Strength of My Heart. Ps. 73:1-3, 12-13, 16-18, 21-26.

4. June 26. The Service of Godly Leaders

M — Isaiah Foretells Cyrus' Decree. Isaiah 44:24—45:1.
T — Assignments of the Priests. I Chr. 23:1-27.
W — Dedication of the Priests. Lev. 8:6-13.
T — Instructions for the Temple. I Chr. 28:11-19.
F — God Initiates the Passover. Ex. 12:1-16.
S — God Establishes the Passover Memorial. Ex. 12:17-28.
S — Godly Leaders Serve. Ezra 6:13-22.

5. July 3. Haggai Calls for Faithful Service

M — That You May Live. Deut. 5:28-33.
T — Walk in God's Commands. II John 1:4-6.
W — Peace in the Land. Lev. 26:1-12.
T — Blessings for Obedience. Deut. 28:1-14.
F — Curses for Disobedience. Deut. 28:15-51.
S — Punishment for Disobedience. Lev. 26:14-45.
S — Time to Build. Hag. 1:1-11.

6. July 10. Micah Stands Firm for God

M — Judgment on Israel. Amos 2:6-16.
T — Israel's Sins. II Kgs. 17:6-18.
W — Israel Sins Against Judah. II Chr. 28:8-15.
T — Micah's Example Saves Jeremiah. Jer. 26:16-19.
F — God Acts in His Time. Isa. 42:10-17.
S — Who Is Like God? Mic. 7:18-20.
S — God's Word Rejected. Mic. 2:4-11.

7. July 17. Habakkuk Praises God's Faithfulness

M — Punishment Will Come. II Kgs. 23:24-27.
T — God's Promised Judgment Fails. II Kgs. 23:36—24:5.

W — God's Discipline. Prov. 3:11-12.
T — God Gives What Is Good. Ps. 85:1-13.
F — The Lord's Timing. II Pet. 3:1-10.
S — The Punishment of the Chaldeans. Hab. 2:6-20.
S — The Righteous Live by Faith. Hab. 2:1-5; 3:17-19.

8. July 24. Ezekiel Brings Hope to Israel

M — Solomon's Supplication. I Kgs. 8:46-51.
T — Job's Redeemer Lives. Job 19:13-27.
W — Never-ending Steadfast Love. Lam. 3:19-33.
T — Return to God. Hos. 5:15—6:3.
F — A New Heart Promised. Ezek. 11:14-21.
S — Israel and Judah United. Ezek. 36:22-38.
S — Vision of Dry Bones. Ezek. 37:1-14.

9. July 31. Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant

M — Peter Sent to a Gentile. Acts 10:23-29, 34-35.
T — Mission to the Gentiles. Acts 26:12-23.
W — Healing Ten Lepers. Luke 17:11-19.
T — Helping a Gentile Woman. Mark 7:24-30.
F — Faith Justifies Gentiles. Gal. 3:7-14.
S — The Centurion's Faith. Matt. 8:5-13.
S — Jesus Honors Faith in Him. Luke 7:1-10.

10. August 7. Jesus Heals Two Demoniacs

M — Turn to Me and Be Saved! Isa. 45:22-25.
T — Every Knee Shall Bow. Phil. 2:8-11.
W — All Nations Will Worship. Rev. 15:1-4.
T — Jesus Confronts Demons. Luke 8:26-36.
F — Possessed by Demons. Mark 5:1-5.
S — My Name Is Legion. Mark 5:6-13.
S — Tormented Outcasts. Matt. 8:23-34.

11. August 14. A Lame Man Healed

M — The Lord Is My Shield. Ps. 3:1-6.
T — Jesus Bids a Lame Man Walk. John 5:1-16.
W — Peter and John Before the Jewish Leaders. Acts 3:24—4:22.
T — Stephen Rebukes the Crowd. Acts 7:42-53.
F — Stephen Sees Jesus in Heaven. Acts 7:54-60.
S — They Spoke with Boldness. Acts 4:23-31.
S — Walking and Praising God. Acts 3:1-16.

12. August 21. Ananias Heals Saul

M — Samaritans Receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:14-25.
T — Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 10:44-48.
W — Jesus Came to Save Sinners. I Tim. 1:12-17.
T — Share in Christ's Suffering. II Tim. 2:1-7.
F — Saul Terrorizes the Church. Acts 8:1-3.
S — Paul's Conversion. Acts 9:1-9.
S — God's Chosen Instrument. Acts 9:10-20.

13. August 28. Miracles on Malta

M — Go and Tell! Mark 16:14-18.
T — Signs and Wonders of the Apostles. Acts 5:12-16.
W — Paul Sails for Rome. Acts 27:1-12.
T — A Storm at Sea. Acts 27:13-26.
F — The Shipwreck. Acts 27:27-44.
S — Paul Arrives at Rome. Acts 28:11-16.
S — Honored with Many Honors. Acts 28:1-10.

Scripture Lesson Text

I SAM. 3:1 And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; *there was no open vision.*

2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, *that he could not see;*

3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down *to sleep;*

4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, **Here am I.**

5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, **Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.**

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, **Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.**

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So

Samuel went and lay down in his place.

19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established *to be* a prophet of the LORD.

7:3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, **If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.**

4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

5 And Samuel said, **Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.**

10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it **Eben-ezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.**

Samuel's Call and Ministry

Lesson Text: I Samuel 3:1-9, 19-20; 7:3-5, 10, 12

Related Scriptures: I Samuel 1:1-28; Judges 2:16-23

TIMES: about 1093 B.C.; 1047 B.C.

PLACES: Shiloh; Ramah; Mizpeh;
between Mizpeh and Shen

GOLDEN TEXT—"The Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth" (I Samuel 3:10).

Preparing to Teach the Lesson

TODAY'S AIM

Facts: to examine selected passages that support the thesis that Samuel's life was consistently attuned to God.

Principle: to teach the value of a constant walk with God.

Application: to encourage students to heed God's call and walk faithfully with Him throughout life.

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

This week's lesson focuses on the life of Samuel, a man whose life was consistently tuned in to God.

DEVELOPING THE LESSON

1. Samuel's call and commission (I Sam. 3:1-9, 19-20). Review the situation in Israel prior to Samuel. In those pretemple days the tabernacle was pitched at Shiloh, and Eli the priest judged Israel for forty years.

Summarize the contents of I Samuel 1 and 2 to provide contextual background for the lesson text.

Review the account of God's initial revelation to Samuel as it unfolds in I Samuel 3:2-9. Help class members visualize this unique encounter. As Christians, we do not expect a special

revelation such as Samuel received, but we too should be open to listen as God speaks to us through His Word.

Locate Dan and Beersheba on the map. The phrase "from Dan to Beersheba" (I Sam. 3:20) indicates that Samuel's influence as a prophet and a man of God was felt throughout the whole land of Israel. The drought of revelation cited in verse 1 had obviously been reversed. Samuel was established as God's man of the hour.

2. Samuel's concerns (I Sam. 7:3-5). Summarize the contents of 4:1 through 7:2 to provide context for the lesson text. Israel had been doing poorly against the Philistines, who had actually captured the treasured ark of the covenant.

Notice Samuel's priority as indicated in verse 3. His first concern for the nation was spiritual, not political.

Baalim and Ashtaroth were false deities of the Canaanite pantheon. A Bible dictionary can supply you with information on these gods and how they were worshiped. First Samuel 7:4 indicates a major national revival for Israel as they turned away from idols. Once the spiritual issues were settled, Samuel and the nation were in a po-

sition to petition God for deliverance from the Philistine aggressors.

3. Samuel's conquest (I Sam. 7:10, 12). Help the class visualize the scene presented in these verses. On the one hand, God's covenant with His people was being renewed through a burnt offering. At the same time a formidable force of Philistines was approaching. The Philistines had iron weapons and chariots.

God's timing is always right. At just

the right time He intervened supernaturally to confuse and upset the enemy advance.

When victory had been achieved, Samuel was careful to give credit where credit was due.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

Read Isaiah 6:1-8 and review a summary of Isaiah's ministry to see the ways in which he faithfully served the Lord.

—Bruce A. Tanner.

Studying the Text

SAMUEL'S CALL FROM GOD—

I Sam. 3:1-9, 19-20

The circumstances of the call (I Sam. 3:1-3). Our lesson introduces Samuel as a child, carrying out duties at the tabernacle for Eli, the high priest. Although humble and inconspicuous at this point in his life, Samuel was to become a towering figure in the history of Israel. He marked the period of transition from the judges to the monarchy. He is known to us as the last judge, the first named prophet after Moses, and the anointer of kings.

Samuel was from the outset a special child, born in answer to the prayer of the childless Hannah. She vowed that a son born to her would be dedicated to the Lord and under a Nazarite vow for his entire lifetime (I Sam. 1:1-11). {True to her word, Hannah took Samuel to the tabernacle at Shiloh after she had weaned him. There she presented him to Eli for service (vss. 24-28).}^{q1}

The days in which Samuel grew up were difficult ones. Politically, Israel was a loose confederation of tribes, sometimes warring against each other, and having no central authority to organize them against their enemies (cf. Judg. 21:25). Under these conditions, the Phi-

listines threatened to overwhelm them.

{Israel's spiritual condition was deplorable. The aging high priest, Eli, could not control his wicked sons, who brought the priesthood into disrepute through dishonest and immoral acts (I Sam. 2:12-17, 22-25). Moreover, "the word of the Lord was precious [rare] in those days; there was no open vision" (3:1).}^{q2} God did occasionally send a prophetic message, as He did to Eli (2:27-36), but the nation as a whole did not receive special revelation.

These were the general circumstances in which God called Samuel. The immediate circumstances at the tabernacle are given in our text as well. The call came at night, "when Eli was laid down in his place" (I Sam. 3:2).

{Samuel himself had lain down to go to sleep (I Sam. 3:3).}^{q3} This does not mean he slept in the tabernacle proper, but within its courtyard, where dwelling places for priests had been built. No longer a traveling tent, the tabernacle at Shiloh had taken on some aspects of permanence (see the "doors" in verse 15).

God's call and Samuel's response (I Sam. 3:4-5). When the Lord first called Samuel, Samuel answered,