



Junior Bible Class

For Children
Ages 9 Through 11

SUMMER
June, July, August 2022



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SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2022

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Servants and Healers

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JUST FOR JUNIORS

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Hi, Juniors,

Would you like to be rich and famous? Maybe then you would not have to do much work. You could pay others to do a lot of the work for you. They could serve you meals, clean your house, and drive you around—hold on, that probably sounds like the things your mom or dad already does for you.

Jesus taught about being servants to others. He did not just teach about it; He lived it. Jesus came to earth to serve others. He did that because of His love for us, and He wants us to be like Him.

This quarter's lessons deal with being faithful servants. When we serve others, we are serving God! We can find examples of people serving God and others throughout the Bible. The Old Testament is full of examples of people serving. One example is Samuel. He was young like you when he first served the Lord. You are never too young to be a servant for God.

A man named Isaiah told God that he would serve Him. He was sent to tell the people of Israel messages from God. Another example of a servant was a man named Asaph. He was a musician in Israel. He trusted in God to help him faithfully serve Him and others. Ezra was a man who faithfully helped the people of Israel to rebuild and worship in God's temple.

Do you know what prophets are? In the Bible, they were people who spoke for God to others. One of them was named Haggai. He was faithful to God by helping people to serve God. Another prophet was named Micah. He was a faithful servant to God when others were not. God gave Micah a message for Israel, and he faithfully told them what God said. Habakkuk was a prophet who served God by telling others how faithful God is. Ezekiel was a prophet who served God by bringing His message of hope to Israel. God also wants you to give a special message to others. You can tell your friends and family about Jesus.

You will also learn about miracles of healing God did through His servants. Jesus is God's greatest servant. He healed many people, including the servant of an army commander and two men troubled by demons. God also healed people through servants such as Peter, John, Ananias, and Paul. They faithfully gave God the glory for the miracles.

There are always ways God and others serve. When you serve others, make sure you have the right attitude. Serving is caring for others and not yourself. Serving is about bringing glory to God.

Your friend,
Don Ruff

NAME THE FAITHFUL

BY DON RUFF

Write in the blank the name of the correct faithful person from the list below.

ANANIAS ASAPH CENTURION EZEKIEL EZRA HABAKKUK
HAGGAI ISAIAH JESUS MICAH PAUL PETER SAMUEL

- _____ 1. disciple God used to heal a crippled man
- _____ 2. prophet who brought God's message of hope to Israel
- _____ 3. young boy God called to serve Him as prophet and priest of Israel
- _____ 4. man who wrote a psalm about trusting God when life seemed unfair
- _____ 5. man who healed two men who had demons troubling them
- _____ 6. prophet who had a vision of God on His throne
- _____ 7. military commander who had faith that Jesus could heal his servant
- _____ 8. prophet who was faithful to tell Israel about God's message of judgment
- _____ 9. prophet who praised God for His faithfulness during difficult times
- _____ 10. missionary God used to heal people on the island of Malta
- _____ 11. prophet who told the people of Israel that they needed to put God first
- _____ 12. he obeyed and trusted God to heal Paul
- _____ 13. priest and scribe who led worship in the rebuilt temple

ANSWERS:

1. Peter; 2. Ezekiel; 3. Samuel; 4. Asaph; 5. Jesus; 6. Isaiah; 7. centurion; 8. Micah; 9. Habakkuk; 10. Paul; 11. Haggai; 12. Ananias; 13. Ezra.

Rejoice! God Is Good!

It was the first Sunday of the month. *That means this afternoon, I'll go with Dad to the nursing home for church service*, thought Caleb. Every month, their church took a turn holding a service at the Willow Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Caleb had mixed feelings about going. He enjoyed serving the Lord with Dad. He liked singing songs for the people, who smiled and nodded in time with the music. He liked to see them looking happy, and he believed he helped them have an enjoyable moment in the day.

But Caleb did not like seeing people in wheelchairs or watching them walk slowly with a cane or walker. Some of the people could not hear well. Some of them could not get out of their beds unless someone helped them. Many of them had sores on their arms and legs. Caleb felt sad to see so much suffering. He was also a little afraid of getting old, if that was what happened.

As usual, after lunch and a short rest, Dad and Caleb got into the car to go to the nursing home. Soon they were inside, greeting the people as they began gathering in the activity center for the service.

One lady was grouchy. When Caleb smiled and said, "Good afternoon!" she looked at him and answered gruffly, "What's so good about it?" Caleb did not know how to answer her. It made him feel uncomfortable, so he quickly talked to someone else.

Mr. Parker was there, as always. He was a happy man, even though he was missing a leg. Caleb did his best not to look in the direction of his leg while they shook hands.

"Good afternoon, young man!" said Mr. Parker. "I hope you're having a good week. Isn't God good?" he continued.

"Yes, sir. God is good!" replied Caleb. He wondered how Mr. Parker could think God is good when he had only one leg. That was a puzzle to him.

Caleb's thoughts were cut short by the start of their singing time. Then Dad read some Scripture and talked about its meaning. He read Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice."

Dad said, "Joy does not depend on what happens in life. Good things happen, but so do bad things. We are told to rejoice in the Lord always, not just in the good times."

After the service, Caleb and Dad spent time talking to some of the residents. When chatting with Mr. Parker, Caleb sat quietly as he gave his testimony. Mr. Parker told them about some of the tragedies in his life: losing a son in the war, having a car accident that caused him to lose his leg, and now living alone because his wife had passed.

Mr. Parker smiled through his tears. He said, "Don't forget what I told you, Caleb. God is good! He loves me and will never leave me!"

Caleb was glad he had helped with the nursing home service. He was thankful for Mr. Parker's joyful example.

—Carol Burton.



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Eli helped Samuel realize that he had heard from God.

God Has a Job for Samuel

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

GOLDEN TEXT—“And the Lord . . . called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth” (I Samuel 3:10).

Scripture Lesson Text

1 SAMUEL 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.*

Know Your Bible

SAMUEL'S CALL—I Samuel 3:1-9

The child Samuel worked in the tabernacle, but the Scriptures do not tell us what he did. We assume he may have helped with the cleanup after the sacrifices. He was faithful in doing whatever the priest required.



Every year, Hannah, Samuel's mother, brought him a new robe. How happy she must have been to have a son in the service of God! Hannah had no idea, though, that God would use her sacrificial gift to help all Israel.

In those days, God did not often communicate with His people. That was not an oversight on God's part. His people were living double lives, serving God and idols. God will not share His glory. People still brought their sacrifices to the temple. Worship was carried on as usual, but there was no real communication with God.

Samuel had never heard from the Lord. We cannot help wondering what Samuel thought about the sacrifices that went on in the temple. He must have known about God, but he did not know God personally. Perhaps Eli should have taught by example as well as by his words.

We often hear or read of people who have been brought up in the church all their lives and yet do not know the Lord. They may know about Him, but they have never really come to know Him in a personal way. That was Samuel's case.

One night while Eli and Samuel lay sleeping, God called Samuel by

name. "Here I am," Samuel responded three times. Each time this happened, Samuel ran to see what the old priest needed. Each time Eli said, "I did not call you. Go back to bed."

Finally, it occurred to old Eli that God might be trying to speak to the boy. We cannot help wondering whether Eli was envious of Samuel. God had not been communicating with him; yet here was a young boy being called by God!

Eli told Samuel what to say if he heard his name called again. From then on, God spoke His will to Samuel. The first thing God told Samuel was bad news: Because Eli had failed to discipline his children, he was rejected by God (see verses 11-14).

SAMUEL'S COMMITMENT— I Samuel 3:19-20

As Samuel grew into adulthood, God was with him. Unlike his predecessor, he treasured every word from God. He did not allow God's precious word to go unnoticed.

Everyone in Israel recognized that Samuel was God's prophet. The phrase "from Dan even to Beer-sheba" (verse 20) is used to speak of the northern and southern boundaries of Israel. In other words, all twelve tribes acknowledged Samuel's authority.

As a child, Samuel had known nothing of the Lord, at least in a personal way. Now God would be using Samuel as His spokesperson.

SAMUEL'S CHALLENGE— I Samuel 7:3-5

The Philistines of Samson's day continued to be a powerful enemy. They vexed the people of Israel. Part