

# Tonight's

passage – **1 Samuel 3. 1-21**

theme – **called by the Lord**

*This story about Samuel reminds us of the importance of listening carefully to God and to what He is saying – and then making sure we obey His word. Find this picture on every page of the worksheet*



# The Lord speaks ...

## In the beginning ...

Right from the start of the Bible it's made very clear that

**God speaks ..**

.. and that when He speaks, things start to happen!

**Some amazing things happen!**

## Jesus calls us

From the start of His ministry, Jesus was calling people to follow Him and enter into the kingdom of God.

Through the Bible He's calling **YOU** too!

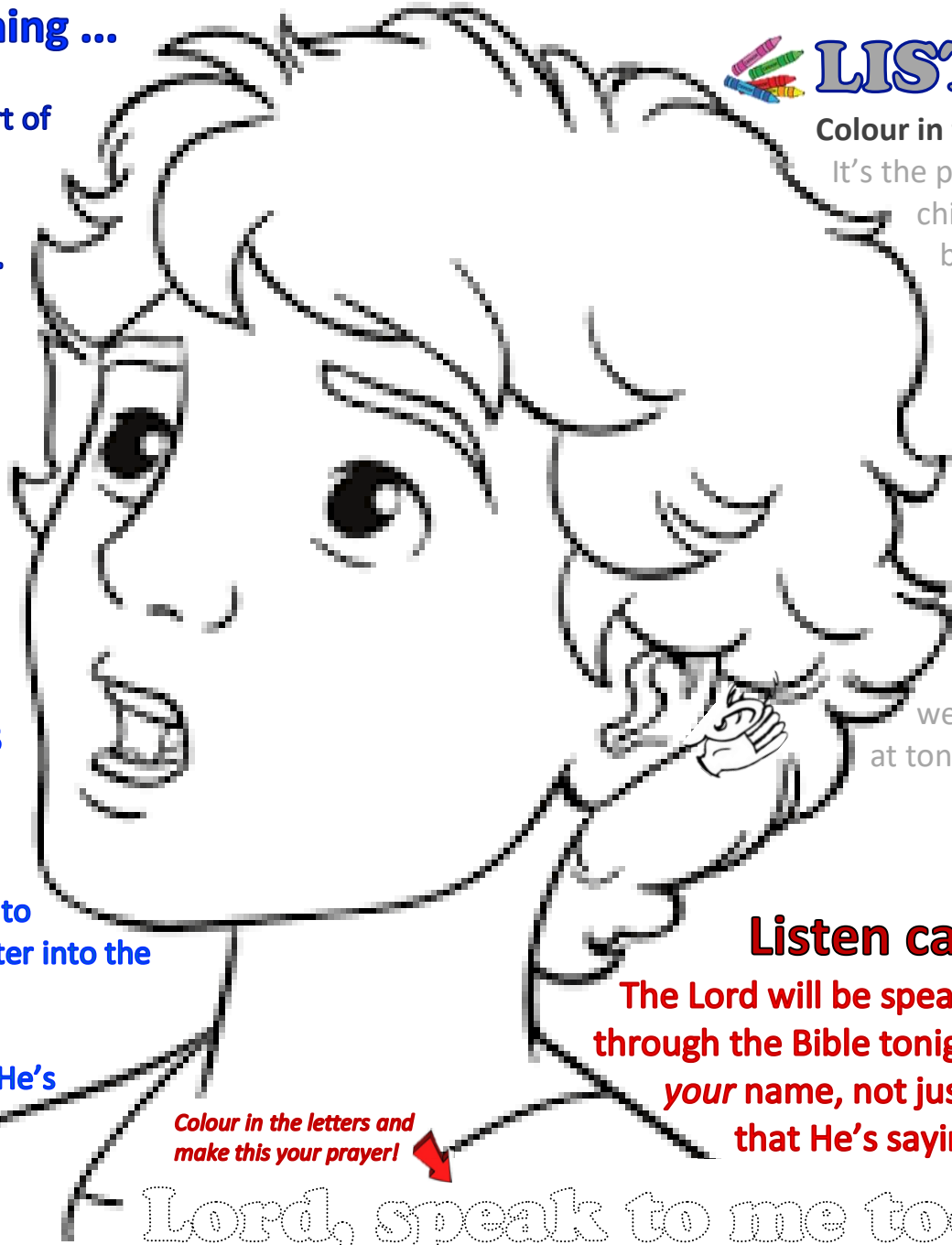


## LISTEN!

Colour in the picture.

It's the picture of a child who is being very careful to listen.

That'll be the really important word for you to take from the passage we'll be looking at tonight.



## Listen carefully!

The Lord will be speaking to you through the Bible tonight. It'll be **your name**, not just Samuel's that He's saying!

*Colour in the letters and make this your prayer!*



Lord, speak to me today!

are you

**SAMUEL**

**listening?**

**Read**  
**1 Samuel 3**  
**verses 1-4**

The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli.

In those days **the word of the Lord was rare**; there were not many visions.

<sup>2</sup>One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place.

<sup>3</sup>The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

<sup>4</sup>Then the Lord called Samuel.

# the word of the Lord

## notes



Do a bit of detective work as you read these verses!



**Samuel** was a \_ \_ \_

Jesus wants you to be His follower

**NOW**

There are amazing stories in the Bible telling how the Lord uses children to serve Him.

Don't wait until you're older. Trust Jesus now!



**The word of the Lord** was \_ \_ \_ \_

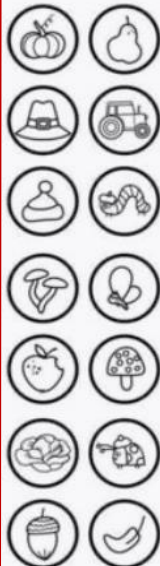
Do you remember what the very first 'word' that God spoke was? You can find it in Genesis 1 v.3

**"Let there be light!"**

And there was light! God's word helps us to see things as they really are. To see God for who He is. To see ourselves for who we are. To see life for what it is. It was part of Eli's job as the priest to teach the people God's word.

**But Eli could** \_ \_ \_ **e** \_ \_ \_ **ee!**

How good a detective are you? Can you find all the objects which are hidden in the picture?



### God had spoken!

.. but the people weren't hearing! The man who should have been teaching the people God's word wasn't hearing.



Then ....

**the Lord** \_ \_ \_ \_ **Samuel**

God spoke His word to the young boy. He wanted Samuel to be His servant and to bring His word to the people.

# Here I am!

**Read**  
**1 Samuel 3**  
verses 4-7

## Samuel was listening carefully

Even though it was in the middle of the night, Samuel had his ears open!

When he heard his name being called he assumed it was the priest calling for him.

He'd learned how important it is to submit his life to those in authority, and to obey when he was called.

(A good habit to learn!)

It wasn't the priest who was calling him, but the Lord!

But saying "Here I am" was good practice. That's what the Lord looks for from is in response to His call.

Are you ready to respond to the Lord and say those same words to Him?

## Here I am, Lord!

*How wide awake are you?  
The letters of Samuel's name are all hidden in the picture of Samuel at the side of Eli's bed: circle the letters when you find them*



<sup>4</sup> Samuel answered, 'Here I am.'

<sup>5</sup> And he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.'

But Eli said, 'I did not call; go back and lie down.'

So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup> Again the Lord called, 'Samuel!'

And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.'

'My son,' Eli said, 'I did not call; go back and lie down.'

<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.



**Colour in the picture below**



# Jesus calls

# YOU

Read

## 1 Samuel 1

verses 8-10, 19-21

<sup>8</sup>A third time the Lord called, 'Samuel!' And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.'

Then Eli realised that the Lord was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>So Eli told Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if He calls you, say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' "

So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, 'Samuel! Samuel!'

Then Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

\*

<sup>19</sup>The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and He let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognised that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there He revealed himself to Samuel through his word.



## Speak, Lord

### for Your servant is listening

Samuel heard the Lord calling him – and Samuel was quick to respond.

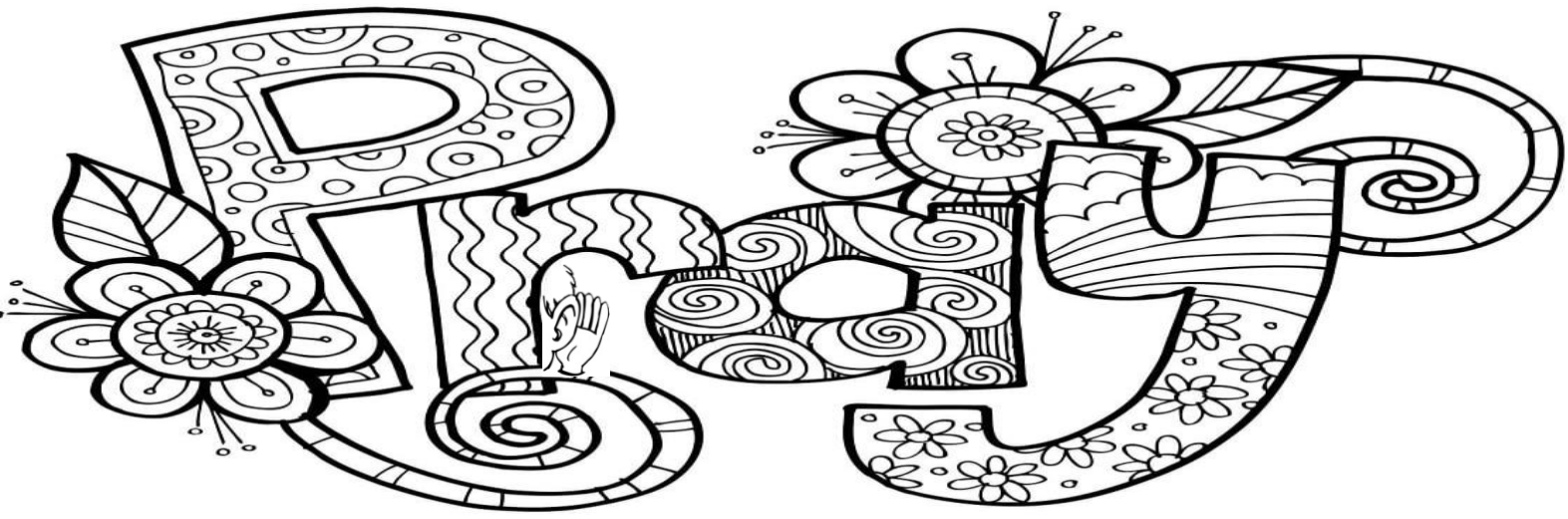
That moment changed the course of Israel's story!

## Consider –

Might the Lord be speaking to YOU through this bit of the Bible and calling YOU to be His servant?



**Tell an adult that you've heard the call of Jesus and want to serve Him. You may be sure that the Lord'll be with you as He was with Samuel!**



*Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet.*

*Speak to God about what you've learned: if you want, use this prayer to help you*

**You're wonderful, Lord!**

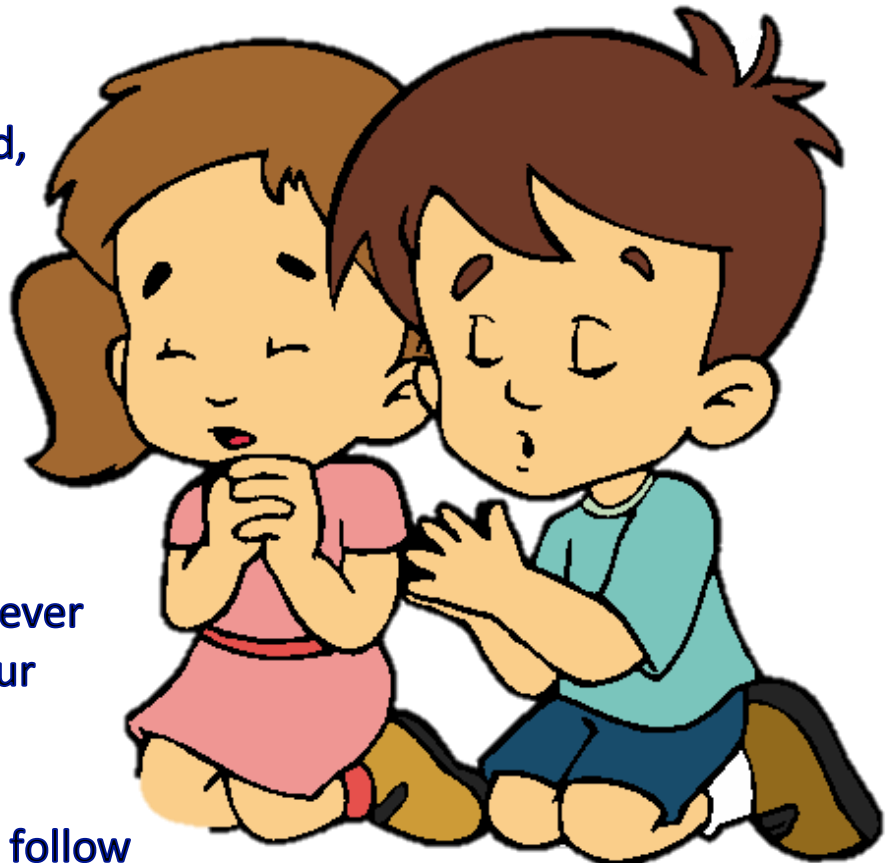
**It's amazing to see how You're so glad to call even young children to share with You in all that You're doing.**

**Help me to remember that You're always speaking to Your people – and help me to be a good listener!**

**Please teach me from Your Word, and help me to read it always expecting that You will have something important to say to me through it.**

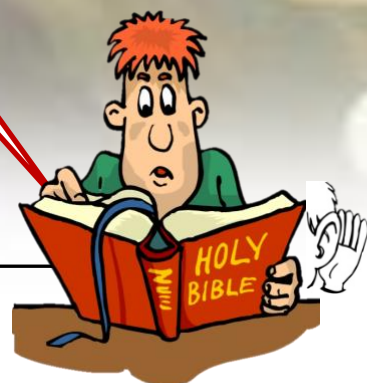
**Help me to grow up like Samuel, glad to serve You, Jesus, in whatever way You want me to share in Your work.**

**Help me to hear Your call and to follow You wherever You will take me. I'm Your servant, Lord Jesus!**



# Today's verse for you to try and remember!

**"Speak, Lord,  
for Your servant  
is listening"  
1 Samuel 3.<sup>10</sup>**



# Wordsearch

Here's a Wordsearch based on the story of the Lord calling Samuel.

See if you can find the words

P D G D M M G S G D N P G G O D Q  
B F R R Z F H A N N A H N V N B Q  
M B K O A O F D V B O I J T W D K  
S L W P W K B Q Y T P J R W B W F  
E B K J M S P E X E T L O G U W V  
M L S V Z L Z D E H P C U O T J Y  
M F A R U Q C L V P M Z D N N Q E  
E L M W K E S H C O Z R T E W A L  
S H U Z K C E Q A R Z Z B T L N K  
S R E Z C A X P S P V H X S G I A  
A H L Z A L E B H I W D A I U M N  
G P A L B L E P I L M Z S L F P A  
E S E R V A N T S E F B N Q R A H  
F V V R I B U S U Y N T Z N G E H  
G Z D J W Q S B C A L L E D O I B  
H H M J Q U J Y Z Y K Z M F D J B  
X J Z K S R A E H I O Z J E D L J

WORD

SAMUEL

HEAR

ELI

SPEAK

PROPHET

HANNAH

CALLED

SLEEPING

MESSAGE

GOD

CALL

SERVANT

LISTEN

ELKANAH





# COLOUR in the picture

Try colouring in the picture below as neatly as you can!



SPEAK, LORD.



I'M 

LISTENING.

