

# Tonight's

## passage – 1 Samuel 2.<sup>12-26</sup>

### theme – Growing..!

The sons of Eli were only interested in themselves. Samuel, though was glad to serve the LORD. See if you can find the picture below of a boy eager to serve on every page of the worksheet.

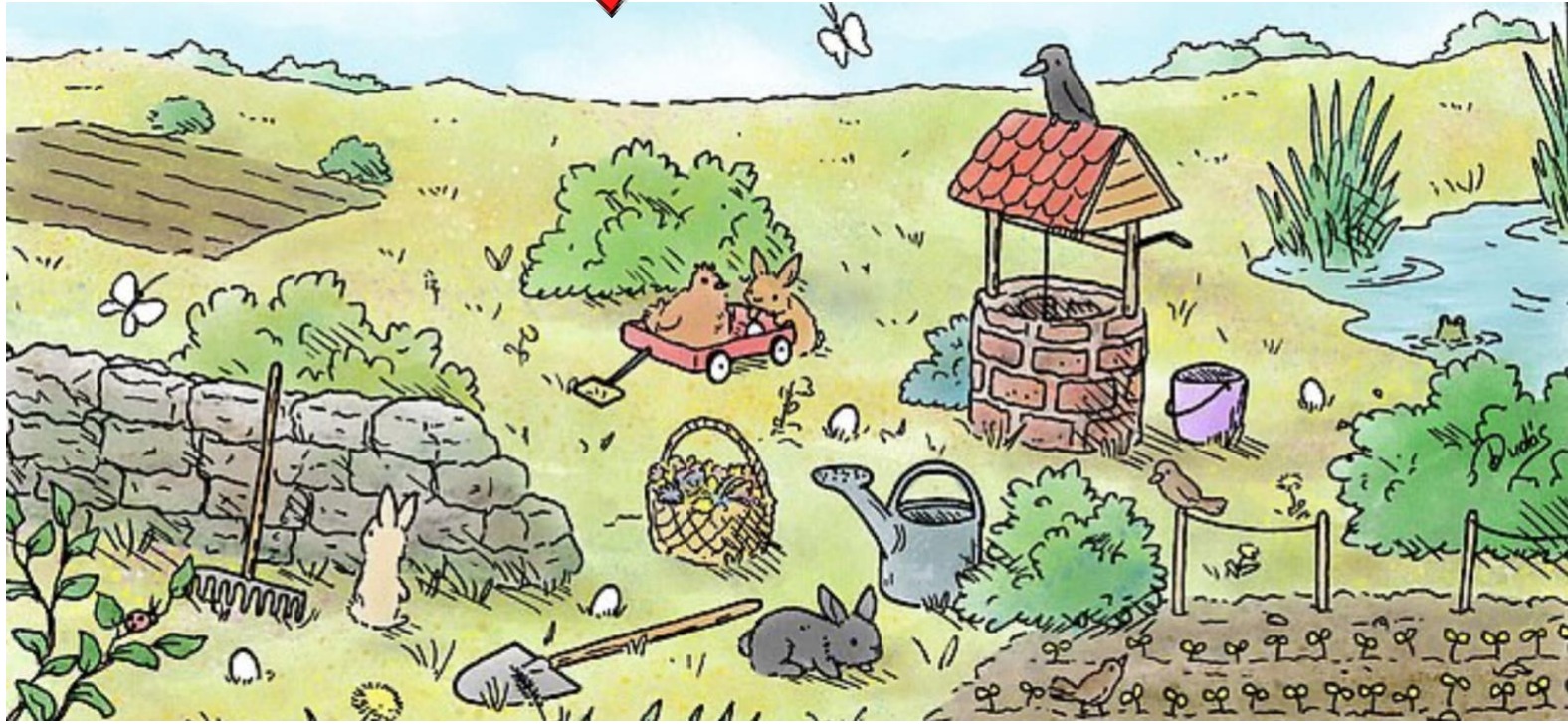


# Spot the differences!

There are 5 differences between the two pictures below. See if you can spot all 5 of them!



In tonight's passage you're going to have to do the same sort of thing – spot the differences between Hannah's son and the sons of Eli the priest.



# scoundrels!

## Read 1 Samuel chapter 2 verses 12-17

## Hophni & Phineas

Eli the priest had two sons, called Hophni and Phineas who helped Eli in his work.

<sup>12</sup> Eli's sons were scoundrels; they had no regard for the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Now it was the practice of the priests that, whenever any of the people offered a sacrifice, the priest's servant would come with a three-pronged fork in his hand while the meat was being boiled <sup>14</sup> and would plunge the fork into the pan or kettle or cauldron or pot. Whatever the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. This is how they treated all the Israelites who came to Shiloh. <sup>15</sup> But even before the fat was burned, the priest's servant would come and say to the person who was sacrificing, 'Give the priest some meat to roast; he won't accept boiled meat from you, but only raw.'

<sup>16</sup> If the person said to him, 'Let the fat be burned first, and then take whatever you want,' the servant would answer, 'No, hand it over now; if you don't, I'll take it by force.'

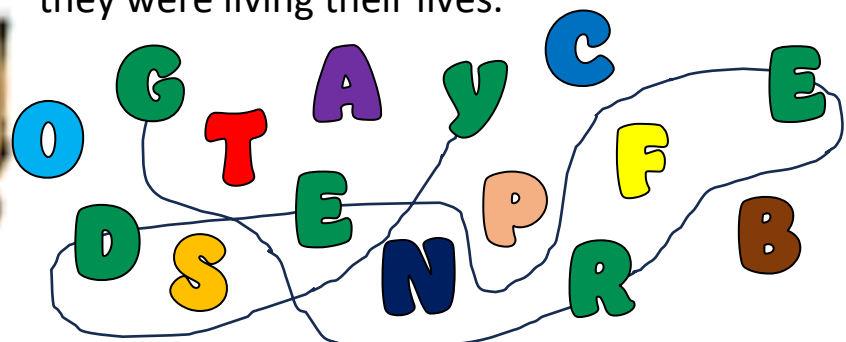
<sup>17</sup> This sin of the young men was very great in the Lord's sight, for they were treating the Lord's offering with contempt.



**"Hophni & Phineas were 'scoundrels'" (v.12)!**

God had given His people clear instructions as to how the priests were to offer sacrifices (you can read about them in Leviticus 7.28-34).

Hophni and Phineas ignored God's word. Follow the line to see what word describes how they were living their lives.




Write your answer here

**G** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



# servant

## – Samuel –

While Hophni and Phineas, the sons of Eli the priest, were **scorning** the Lord, Samuel, the son of Hannah, was learning to **serve** the Lord. 

The word 'minister' is actually a Latin word meaning a 'servant'.

So when young Sam was 'ministering' before the LORD it means simply that he was **serving** before the LORD.



## think . .

we're all growing – either growing away from the LORD (like the sons of Eli) or closer to the LORD.

### Make sure you're like Samuel!

Aim to love the LORD more and more: and choose to serve the LORD day by day!



## Read 1 Samuel 2

verses 18-21

<sup>18</sup> But Samuel was ministering before the Lord – a boy wearing a linen ephod.

<sup>19</sup> Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. <sup>20</sup> Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, 'May the Lord give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the Lord.' Then they would go home. <sup>21</sup> And the Lord was gracious to Hannah; she gave birth to three sons and two daughters.

Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the Lord.

Do you remember Hannah's song from last week? She'd said –

*"those who oppose the LORD will be broken ..  
the LORD will judge the ends of the earth"*



*That's what was going to happen!*

**Hophni and Phineas – watch out!**



**Read**  
**1 Samuel 2**  
verses 23-26

# stature..

## your **STANDING** before God

<sup>22</sup> Now Eli, who was very old, heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

<sup>23</sup> So he said to them, 'Why do you do such things? I hear from all the people about these wicked deeds of yours. <sup>24</sup> No, my sons; the report I hear spreading among the LORD's people is not good. <sup>25</sup> If one person sins against another, God may mediate for the offender; but if anyone sins against the LORD, who will intercede for them?'

His sons, however, did not listen to their father's rebuke, for it was the LORD's will to put them to death.

<sup>26</sup> And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favour with the LORD and with people.

The word 'stature' has to do with your 'standing' or your status – or even, simply, your size height-wise.

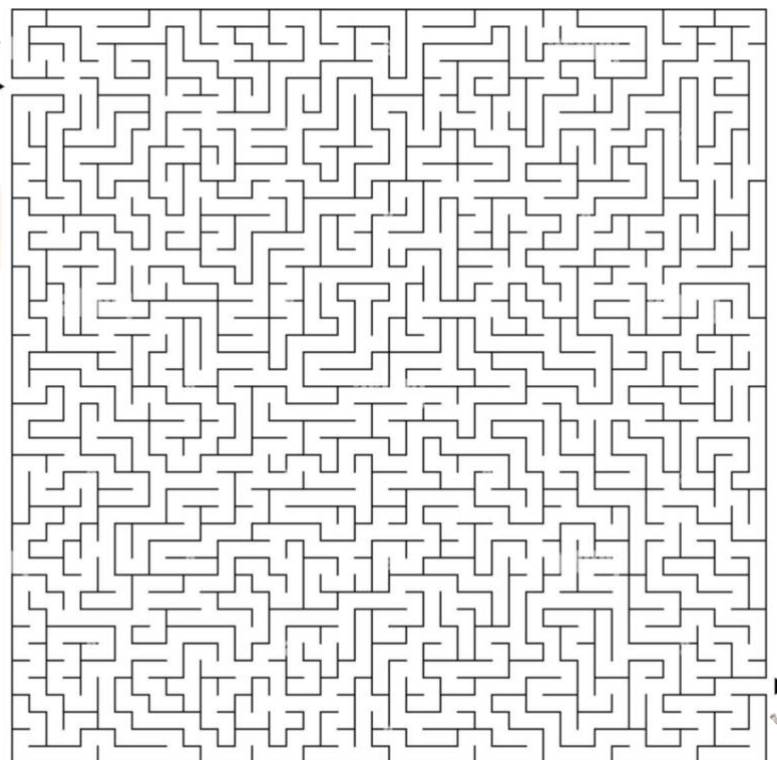
*"Samuel continued to **grow** in stature .." (v.26).*

The sons of Eli were going to find that they had no standing before God at all.



**Make sure you grow in your standing before the LORD! Choose well how you spend your time, what you read and watch, and who your friends will be.**

*Try your 'choosing' skills on this maze! Start here and see if you can get to the end!*

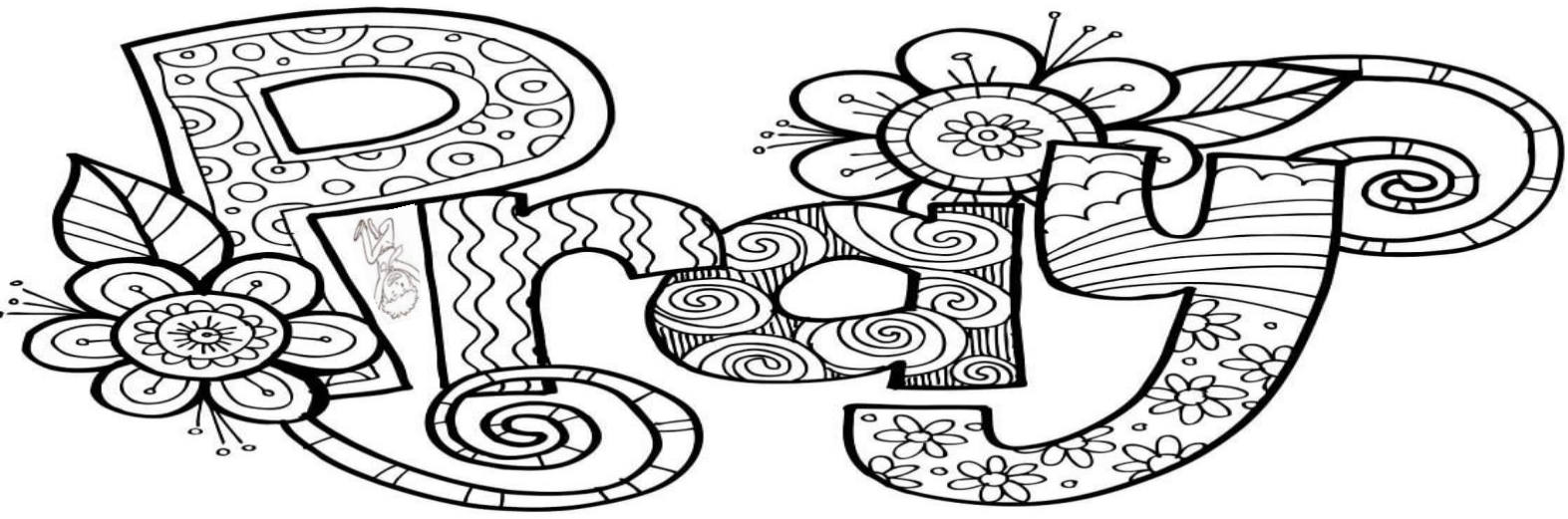


## think ..

Samuel learned as a young boy to serve the LORD always.

Why not make a choice today and tell the LORD that **you** will serve Him all your days? Then tell someone you've done that!





*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*

**Lord Jesus, I'm glad You've given us the Bible! Thank You for all that You teach me from the Bible. Help me to be a good learner!**

**It's exciting to see how Samuel started serving You when he was still very young! I want to be the same!**

**I want to serve You, Lord, always: but I need You to help me do so.**

**I know how greedy I can be. It can be so easy to find myself simply following the crowd and living as my friends live, and not as You call me to live.**

**Please help me to be bold, and to choose to follow You and to trust in Your Word in all that I'm doing each day.**



**Thank You, Lord Jesus, for everything You do for me and give to me!**

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



“the boy Samuel continued  
to grow in stature and in  
favour with the LORD and  
with people”

(1 Sam.2.26)



# Wordsearch

The Wordsearch mentions Samuel, Hophni and Phineas. See if you can find all the words!

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

Ark of the covenant  
David  
Goliath  
Hophni  
Phineas  
Samuel  
Understanding

Bible  
Eli  
  
Knowledge  
Prayer  
Saul  
Wisdom

Dagon  
Elkhannah  
Hannah  
Philistines  
Proverbs  
Teen Vision



COLOUR in the picture

And the people  
Said to Joshua  
We will serve  
The LORD  
Our God  
and obey Him

Joshua 24:24

