

Kids Church

September 27, 2026

2nd-3rd Grades

September

Theme This Week- “God is always pursuing you!”

Prayer Time- Lord, almighty show us the power in knowing Your Word. Show us how knowing Your Word can change everything in our life. Help us to replace our fears, our anxieties, and our doubts with Your Word. Help this memory verse strike a cord with our hearts.

Challenge- Hula Hoop Hut Wars

Special Story- Not listening to my mom about taking out the trash.

Memory Verse – “My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.”
John 10:27

Songs- Free, Goodness of God, Jesus Loves Me

Devotion- God calls out to Samuel
1 Samuel 3

hopekids

Small Group Time

Who's Calling?

What You Need:

- ☐ Blindfold

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Have kids sit in a circle.
- Say: "We're going to play a game called 'Who's Calling?' You'll need to be listening carefully for this one!"
- Explain the rules:
 - The leader will choose one kid to be "Samuel."
 - The leader will then quietly point to one kid in the circle.
 - That kid will say, "Samuel!" using a normal speaking voice.
 - The kid in the middle must guess who called their name.
- Choose one kid to be "Samuel."
- Invite "Samuel" to sit in the middle of the circle.
- Gently cover their eyes with a blindfold or have them close their eyes.
- Demonstrate a round if needed.
- Begin playing:
 - Quietly point to a kid.
 - Cue them to say, "Samuel!"
 - Let the kid in the middle guess.
- After each guess:
 - Reveal who spoke.
 - Celebrate effort ("Good listening!").
- Rotate a new kid into the middle after every round so multiple kids get a turn.

What You Say:

"In that game, it wasn't always easy to tell who was calling your name, was it? Sometimes you recognized the voice right away. Other times, it was harder to figure out. The Bible teaches that something like this happened to a boy named Samuel. One

night, Samuel heard someone call his name. He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him. But Eli said, 'I didn't call you.' This happened more than once! Samuel didn't realize at first that it was God speaking to him. He had to learn to recognize God's voice. Finally, Eli helped Samuel understand what to do. He told him, 'If you hear the voice again, say, "Speak, Lord. I'm listening."' And that's exactly what Samuel did. He asked God to speak – and God did. Just like in our game, recognizing a voice takes practice. The more you listen, the more familiar it becomes. And the same is true with God. The more we spend time with Him – praying, listening, and learning what the Bible says – the more we begin to recognize His voice. So when you're not sure what to do, you can do what Samuel did. You can pause and say, 'Speak, Lord. I'm listening.' Remember our **[Bottom Line]** **I can ask God to speak to me.** And when we ask, we can trust that He hears us and wants to speak to us."

Take Time to Pray with your Kiddos!

Whose Voice Is It?

What You Need:

- ☐ Bibles marked at John 10:27
- ☐ Smartphone or voice recorder

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- As kids come into the room (or during a quiet moment), discreetly record each of them saying this month's memory verse: *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."* John 10:27. (If possible, include recordings of Kids Pastor and Small Group/Large Group Leaders too!)

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a Bible marked at John 10:27.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse
- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.

- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Explain that you are going to play some secret recordings, and they have to guess whose voice they hear.
- Play the first recording and let the kids guess who is speaking.
- Continue through the recordings, celebrating their good listening skills.

What You Say:

"You all are expert voice detectives! You know your friends' voices so well. Our Memory Verse says, *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."* John 10:27 NIV The more we listen to Jesus and learn about Him in the Bible, the more we will know His voice when He speaks to our hearts. If you aren't sure whether something you hear is from God, talk with a trusted grown-up who follows God, like when Samuel shared what he heard with Eli. The first step is to ask! So, always remember that **[Bottom Line] I can ask God to speak to me.**"

Discussion Questions

1. How many of you have gotten into trouble for not listening?
2. How many of you have had trouble listening to instructions while at school?
3. How old was Samuel when this happened to him? We do not know exactly, but we know that he was a kid probably in elementary school.
4. Where did Samuel live at this time? He lived at the Church.
5. Why was Samuel living at the Church? He wanted to use his life to serve our great God.
6. Who was Eli? Eli was the lead pastor of that Church. He was like a teacher to Samuel.
7. Who called out to Samuel in the middle of the night? God
8. Who did Samuel think was calling for him? He thought it was Eli.
9. Who called out to him again? God
10. Was Eli happy that Samuel kept waking him up? Nope.
11. What did Eli say the third time Samuel woke him up? When God calls out to you again, Say Lord here I am, I am listening.
12. Would you be excited or scared if called woke you up in the middle of the night?
13. How does God speak to us today most of the time? Through the Bible.
14. What do you think God would tell you if He did wake you up in the middle of the night?