

# Small Groups!

date : January 20, 2021

- EPHESIANS 4:31-32 -

Dear God

LET ALL BITTERNESS, WRATH, ANGER,  
mean-ness AND EVIL SPEAKING BE PUT  
AWAY FROM YOU, and help us to  
BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER,  
TENDERHEARTED, FORGIVING ONE  
ANOTHER, EVEN AS GOD IN CHRIST  
FORGAVE YOU.

US!

## Opening Ritual and Prayer -

Begin by lighting the candle and inviting every to say, "We begin in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."



Use the Prayer  
to the side!

Share Blessings & Bruises with your  
Small Group OF

Share a God Moment - a "God Moment" is a time when you believe that you saw God working - through miracles, kindnesses, actions of others, news stories...

Guides, pick one or all questions to answer...

1. Share a time when you knew someone was NOT listening to you!!!!
2. If you had to give us hearing, sight, speech or taste, which one would you choose?
3. What's driving you crazy this week?
4. How are you doing personally? Thumbs up, thumbs down, or thumbs to the side?



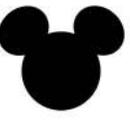
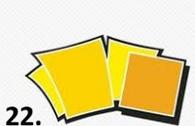
PRACTICE:

"Tell me more!!!"





# GameTime

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
4. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 
11. 
12. 
13. 
14. 
15. 
16. 
17. 
18. 
19. 
20. 
21. 
22. 
23. 
24. 
25. 
26. 
27. 

## BACKGROUND...who is Samuel?

**Samuel** is a figure who, in the narratives of the Hebrew **Bible**, plays a key **role** in the transition from the period of the **biblical** judges to the institution of a kingdom under Saul, and again in the transition from Saul to David. He is venerated as a prophet by Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

From the closing words of the book of Judges and the opening chapters of 1 Samuel we learn that the Israelites are both leaderless and disconnected from God. The

One of Samuel's duties was to appoint a King for the Israelites.

The people were asking for a king, and God did not want to appoint one, knowing it would bring problems to the people. But God finally agrees and leads Samuel to Saul. Saul becomes the 1st Israelite king. Saul does not remain a good King and God sends Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint a new king to follow Saul. Samuel is led to the house of Jesse and anoints his youngest son David. David does not become a king immediately, but becomes a trusted musician in the house of Saul.

closest thing they have to a national leader is the priest Eli, who with his sons runs the shrine at Shiloh. The Israelites' political, military, and economic prosperity depends on their faithfulness to God. God's plan is to raise up young Samuel to succeed Eli. Samuel receives one of the few audible calls from God recorded in the Bible, but notice that this is *not* a call to a type of work or ministry. Samuel had been serving in the house of the Lord since he was two or three years old, and the choice of occupation had been made by his mother. (See [1 Samuel 1:20-28](#) and [2:18-21](#).) Nonetheless it is a call to a task, namely to tell Eli that God has decided to punish him and his sons, who are soon to be removed as God's priests. After fulfilling this calling, Samuel continues to serve under Eli until he is recognized as a prophet in his own right and succeeds Eli after Eli's death. Samuel becomes the leader of God's people, not

because of self-serving ambition or a sense of entitlement, but because God had given him a vision and the gifts and skills to lead people to carry out that vision.

## Reading Directions: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Small Group closes eyes and listens while Guide reads the bible verses. **On the back page!**

1. Bible verse is read a second time by a Small Group youth
2. Small Group circles or highlights what “sparkles” or stands out to them.
3. Share what you circled or highlighted!!! And share why you liked it or why it caught your attention.



## Discussion Questions:

1. Who really listens to you?
2. How can you tell when someone is really listening to you?
3. How do you know when someone is not listening to you?
4. Who do you listen to? What do you listening to? What catches your attention?
5. Why does God have to call Samuel 3 times?
6. Remember Samuel is quite young at the time of his call by God—why does it seem like young children often have a better understanding of God than we do?
7. Has God ever talked to you? Have you ever had a feeling or sense that God was near you?
8. If someone told you God was talking to them, would you believe it? Why or why not?
9. What are ways God might talk to us now?
10. What are some of the gifts/talents/“ways of being” that God has given you? How might you use these things in the world?
11. Eli figured out that God was calling Samuel—who in your life helps you with God or points you towards God?
12. Why do I want you to know about Samuel?

But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

<https://coloringpagesbymradron.blogspot.com/>

Adron ©2020

In Pastor Aaron’s sermon last week, he talked about Malala Yousafzai as our “contemporary” prophet for the week (not biblical). Do you know who she was? What her message was? Why she became a prophet? **look it up this week and report back next week!!**

PRAYER...

“I’m going to light a candle for...”

amen.



KEY VERSE: "Speak Lord, your servant is listening..." 1 Samuel 3:10

# 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

<sup>2</sup> At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup> the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"<sup>[a]</sup> and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup> and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup> The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup> The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup> Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup> Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

