

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: BOrdinary2x2018

Text: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

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. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; 3 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. (Shiloh)

4 Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" 5 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.

6 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." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

8 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. 9 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.

10 Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. 12 On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14 Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

15 Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." 17 Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him."

19 As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

Word - S, Math - I, Body - I, People - B

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
<p>Word - Verbal/Linguistic</p> <p>MWD</p>	<p>Rare = Hebrew <i>precious</i></p>		<p>Precious things are rare things. What words are rare, therefore, precious?</p>  <p>Print out some words like love, listen, accept, humble, courage, presence, commitment - other words that fit this passage and hand them out. During the service, encourage people to underline them as they encounter them. Add your own. Trade with your friends.</p>
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>	<p>Samuel is sleeping in the sanctuary, perhaps next to the ark of the Covenant.</p>	<p><u>Sanctuary = safe place</u> Animal sanctuaries Political sanctuary Safe places; homes, special areas, rooms, corners of rooms, etc</p> <p>Spend time contemplating what makes a sanctuary “safe.” Location? Firepower? Fortification? Company? Purpose? What about <i>your</i> sanctuary?</p> <p>(also People and Self smart)</p>	
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p> <p>D2</p>	<p>3 - significant number for Hebrews!</p>	<p>The likelihood of Samuel hearing a sound like Eli calling him three times seems to be beyond random chance. Find out more about likelihood and probability</p>	

		<p>here and about statistical significance here and here.</p>	
<p>Body - Kinesthetic MWD</p>	<p>Eli's eyesight (vision) is failing. Is this literal or metaphorical?</p>	<p>Samuel spends a lot of time jumping in and out of his bed. Good thing he is young, eh?</p> <p>Describe the process step by step. He found his place, took off his tunic, hung it on a hook on the wall, laid himself down, pulled up his cover, and closed his eyes. He hears the voice calling his name! He throws off the cover, gets up, pulls on his tunic, runs up the hall to Eli's room, opens the door, and announces, "Here I am." Then slowly back down the hall, wondering what he heard. Repeat.</p> <p>When you Google "the importance of uninterrupted sleep", this is what comes up!</p>	
<p>Musical</p>		<p>"Here I Am, Lord"</p>	
<p>Natural</p>			
<p>People - Interpersonal D2</p>	<p>God's call often involves changing broken human systems - which is never an easy task.</p>	<p>Samuel is another in a long line of unexpected persons in Scripture called to do God's will.</p> <p>What unexpected persons have you met who have carried out God's intention?</p> <p>Who comes to mind when you think of someone who, like Samuel, has had to deliver difficult information to powerful people?</p>	<p>Prior to this passage, we learn Eli's sons and heirs to his position are irreligious, abusive, and not willing to change. This story ends with Samuel telling Eli he and his sons will be punished. Discuss why God chose to loop Samuel into this drama and Eli's response.</p> <p>This passage can be presented as Reader's Theater!</p>

<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p>	<p>Personal domestic decisions can have world wide consequences - Eli and Samuel were initially just looking to get some sleep. Eli's decision to tell Samuel to listen changed everything.</p>	<p>If you are willing, share your own "call narrative," the story of how you came into ministry.</p>	<p>God called until Samuel learned to listen.</p> <p>How have you experienced God's continual call? How did you learn to listen? What has happened?</p> <p>Who helps you to articulate the response to the calls in your life? How do you do that for other people? What is it about call that lays claim on us? How is God speaking to you? How do we not let such words "fall to the ground?"</p>
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