

# Journal Page

Write a few sentences as a prayer to God, asking Him for something you desire.



## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Does God always give us everything we desire? Why or why not?
- What did Hannah promise God? (See 1 Samuel 1:9-11.)
- Are you willing to listen for God and tell others about Him?



## Eli and Boy Samuel

1 Samuel 1-3

### MAIN POINT: GOD CALLED SAMUEL TO SHARE GOD'S PLAN.

A man named Elkanah lived with his wife Hannah. Hannah was very sad because she did not have any children. Every year, Elkanah went to the tabernacle to make sacrifices to God and to worship Him. Hannah went with him.

Hannah prayed to God, "Lord, if You give me a son, I will dedicate him to You. He will serve You all of his life." A priest named Eli was sitting near the doorpost of the tabernacle. Eli watched Hannah pray. Eli thought there was something wrong with Hannah.

Hannah explained, "I've been pouring out my heart before the Lord."

Eli replied, "Go in peace. May God answer your prayers."

God did answer her prayers. After some time, Hannah gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel. When Samuel was no longer a baby, Hannah took him to Eli at the tabernacle. Hannah returned home and left Samuel with Eli to serve God. Samuel grew older and found favor with God and with men.

One night, Eli was in his bed and Samuel was lying in the tabernacle when Samuel heard someone speak to him.

"Here I am," Samuel replied. He ran to Eli. "Here I am; you called me."

God called Samuel three times, and each time Samuel ran to Eli. "Here I am," he said. Eli finally understood that God was calling to Samuel. He told Samuel how to respond. Samuel went back to his place, and God called, "Samuel, Samuel!" "Speak, for Your servant is listening," Samuel replied. God told Samuel that He was going to judge Eli's family for their sin.

The next day, Samuel was afraid to tell Eli what God had said. Eli asked Samuel to tell him what God said, so Samuel did. As Samuel grew, God was with him. God used Samuel to share His plan with the nation of Israel.

*Christ Connection: Samuel used God's words to tell the people what God is like. John 1:1 says that Jesus is the Word. Jesus showed the world what God is like, and He told people to turn away from their sin. Jesus ultimately freed people from the power of sin by dying on the cross and rising again.*



# Who Said That?

Match each saying to the person who said it. Look up the Scripture references in your Bible to check your answers!

"Speak, for Your servant is listening."  
(1 Samuel 3:10)

"We must go up and take possession of the land because we can certainly conquer it!"  
(Numbers 13:30)

"Am I my brother's guardian?"  
(Genesis 4:9)

"You planned evil against me; God planned it for good."  
(Genesis 50:20)

"Who is Yahweh that I should obey Him?"  
(Exodus 5:2)



## How Does He Do It?

Copy the words from the puzzle pieces into their correct places. Complete the puzzle to answer the big picture question:  
*How does God accomplish His plan?*

