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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word and transform (Change) our lives.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

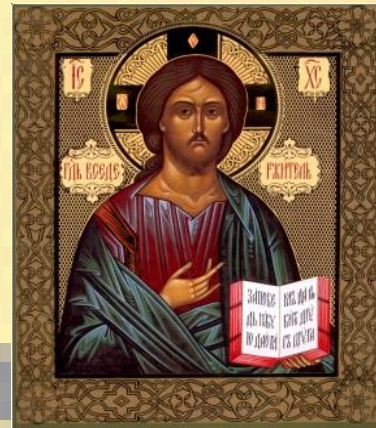
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



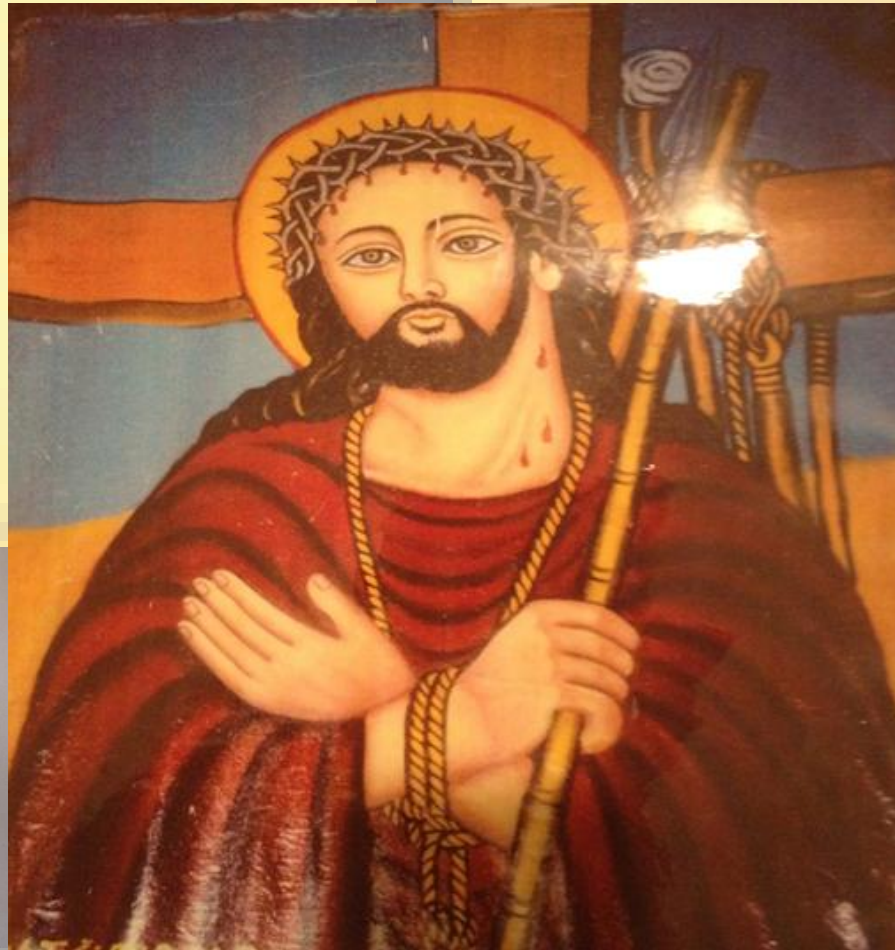
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times




**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**



MEMORY VERSE

**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

Samuel the Prophet

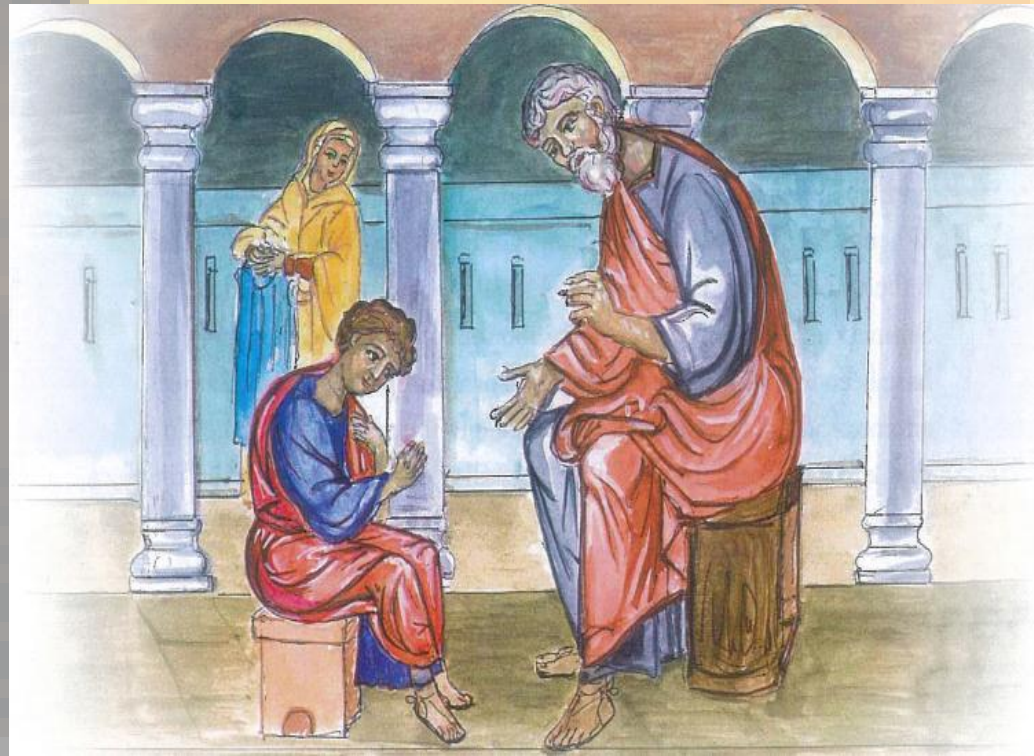


September 15, 2013

Memorize today's Verse

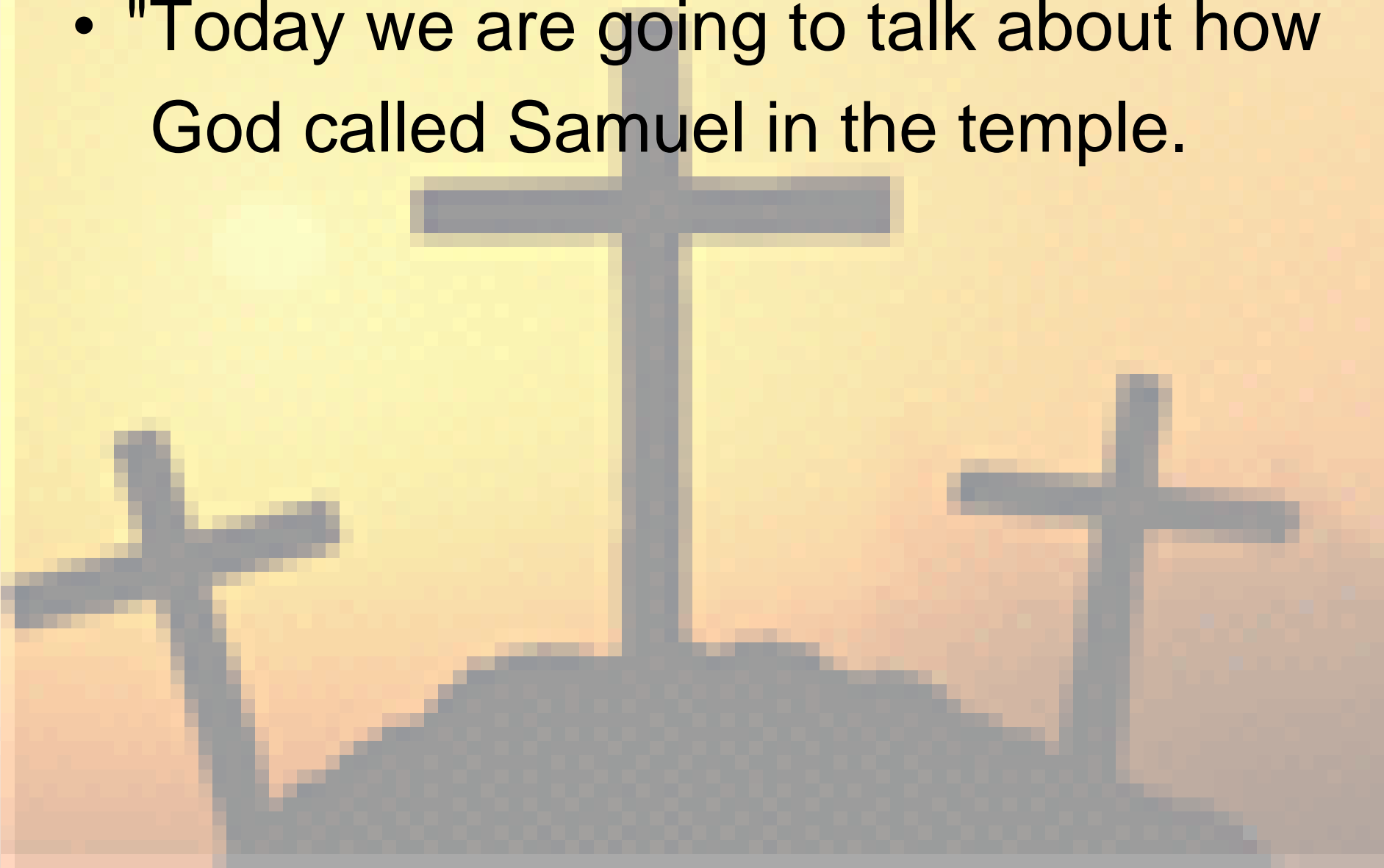
**“Speak Lord for your servant hears”
(1 Samuel 3: 9)**

**Practice this verse
again during the
week.**



Introduction

- "Today we are going to talk about how God called Samuel in the temple.



- What is the meaning of Samuel?
God has heard.



After Joshua died, God raised up Judges for about 250 years, Samuel was the last judge, before the time of the kings.



There once was a lady named Hannah.



who was married to a man named Elkanah.



They were very good people who loved God very much. But they didn't have any children and that made Hannah very sad.



Some of the young mothers were unkind, and poked fun at her, pointing to their own children.



Often she would become so sad that she would creep away by herself, great tears rolling down her cheeks. How she longed for a little child!



Each year Hannah and her husband made a journey to a place called Shiloh to worship God in His Tabernacle there.



And this year Hannah had a special matter to take up with the Lord. She asked God to give her a baby and promised that if she had a son she would bring him to serve in God's house.



Eli was the priest at Shiloh. When he overheard why Hannah was crying he said to her, “Don’t worry! Go home and the God of Israel will give you what you have asked for.”



And not long after, God answered Hannah's prayer. How happy they were when the baby was born! They called him "Samuel," which means, Heard by God.



As soon as he was big enough to go away from home, Samuel was taken to Shiloh just as his mother had promised.



There at the temple they talked to Eli, the high priest. “Take Samuel and train him for the Lord,” Hannah said.” I promised the Lord that if He would give me a son, I would give the boy to the Lord’s work.



Now Eli was getting old and knew that he should begin to train someone to take his place some day, so he gladly took Samuel to live with him in God's house.



As time went by, Samuel was able to assume some important temple duties to help Eli. He opened and closed the doors and kept the lamps cleaned and filled and burning.



So Samuel stayed with Eli, but the sin of Eli's own sons was very great before the Lord.



How pleased Samuel was to see his parents when they made a visit to God's house! Each year his mother brought him a new coat to wear over his simple linen gown. It was hard for Hannah to leave Samuel at the temple and go back to her home in the country.



...but the Lord blessed her and soon there were other babies in her house, Samuel's brothers and sisters.



As Samuel grew older, Eli taught him to read the scrolls which contained the laws and history of God's people, the Israelites.



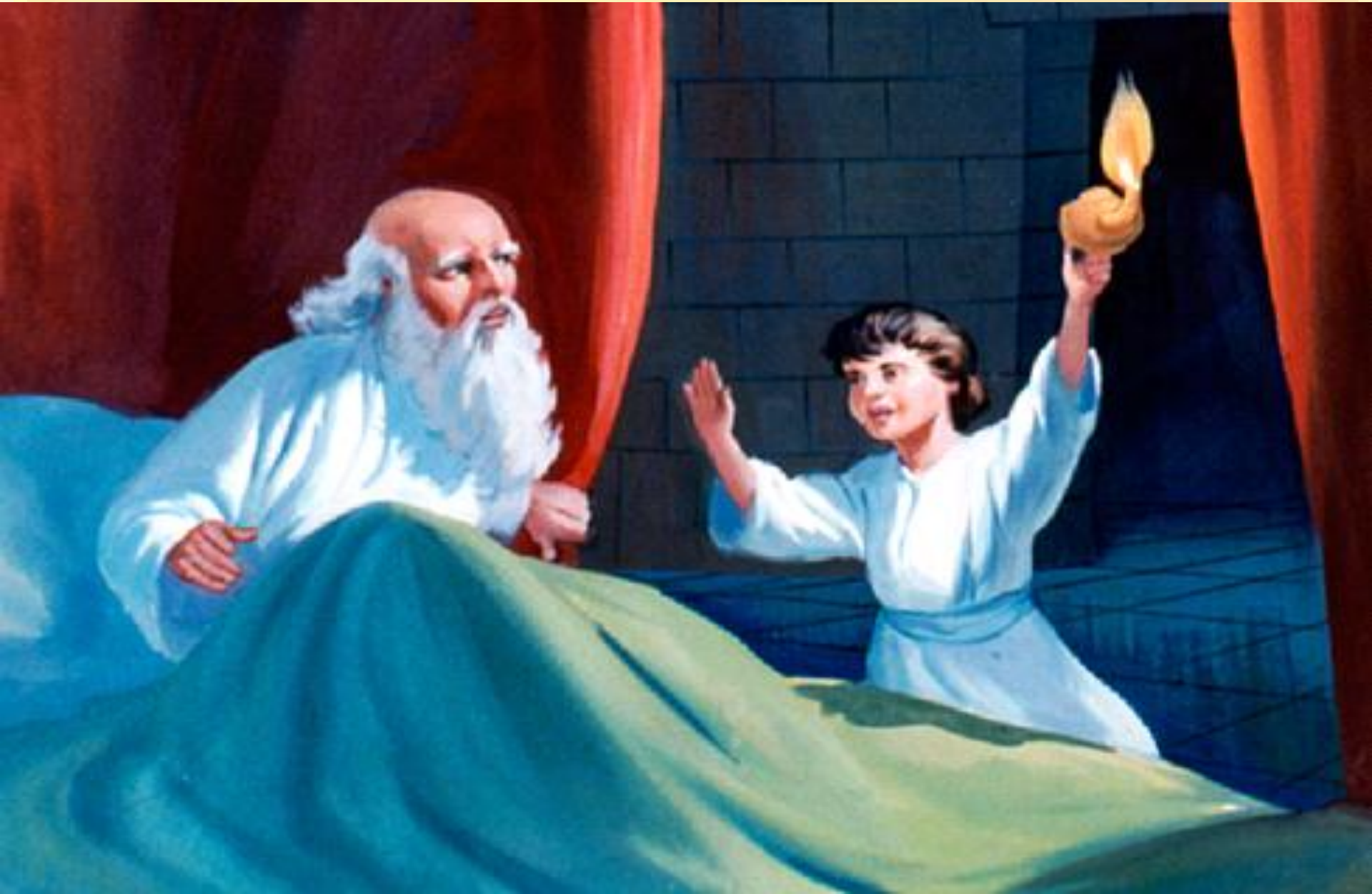
The people grew to love Samuel and were ready to listen when he read to them from the books of the law. But the Bible says, “Samuel did not yet know the Lord.” He was in God’s house and he knew about God, but that was all.



One night, as Samuel was asleep in bed, he was suddenly awakened by a voice calling, “Samuel! Samuel!” He sat up quickly. Who was calling? It must be Eli!



**He ran into the high priest's room. "Here I am! You called me."
Eli was very surprised.**



“No, I didn’t call you my son. Now go back to bed.”



So Samuel went back to bed as he was told. Soon the voice called again, “Samuel! Samuel!”



And again Samuel ran to Eli. And when Samuel said, “Here I am for you did call me...” Eli shook his gray head. “I called not, my son.” Eli sent Samuel back to his bed for the second time.



Samuel went back to his bed, but he was puzzled. Who could have awakened him? Who could have called him?



**It wasn't long before the clear voice called the third time.
"Samuel!"**



Again the boy ran into the aged priest's room. This time Eli realized that something unusual was happening, and that it was the Lord Himself who was calling Samuel. Eli said, "Go and lie down, but if you hear the voice again, say 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'"



So when Samuel heard the voice calling him again he said “Speak for your servant hears”



The Lord was there and talked to Samuel, and told him of many things that would happen in the future.



In the morning Samuel told Eli, “The Lord told me He would carry out the warnings that He has given you. Your sons made themselves vile and you didn’t restrain them.”



The Bible says that after that “Samuel grew...and the Lord was with him...and all Israel knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.” Samuel would be the one who would bring God’s message to the people.



Conclusion

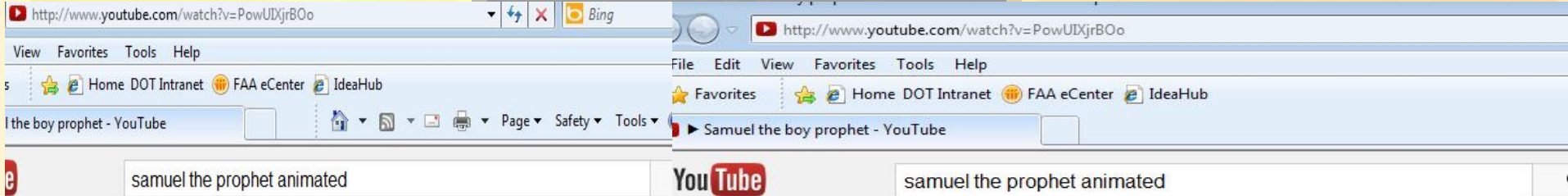
- The most important lesson in the story is that God answers prayers.
- Prayers may not be answered right away. And sometimes, we may have to wait a long time. One purpose is that God wants us to learn to be patient so we should not give up soon and wait on Him.
- If our prayers are answered quickly, we may not value them as much so we need to keep praying and trust God that His will be done.



Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.

<http://youtu.be/PowUIXjrBOo>



1. Who was Hannah's husband?

Elkanah.

2. Hannah asked God

a) to make her family rich.

b) to give her a baby.

3. Hannah promised God that if she had a son she would bring him to serve in God's house.

a) True.

b) False.

6. Samuel's name means "God has heard."

- a) True.
- b) False.

7. Did Hannah keep her promise to God?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.

9. Who called out to Samuel in the night?

- a) Eli the priest.
- b) The Lord God.

10. So how many times did God call Samuel?

11. What did Eli tell Samuel to do?

The End

Next Week
Saul becomes a King.



3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

