

## **Discussion Questions Course 306–2**

### **Large Group**

1. For those who saw the video in Lesson 1, who does Samuel think is calling him at first?
2. What are some ways that we can hear God's voice?
3. Can you obey without listening? Why?
4. Now listen carefully to this question. Can you listen without obeying? Why?
5. Have you ever heard your parents or teachers tell you to do something, but you chose not to do it? Does this please God?
6. If you were here last time, who had the same dream twice; Joy, Chris or Gizmo?
7. Who believed that Chris should take action because the dream was important?
8. Why do you think Samuel hesitated to tell Eli what God said?
9. What important lessons do you think Samuel learned about speaking for God when he gave God's message to Eli?
10. Why do you think Eli didn't discipline his sons even after God told him about their evil ways?
11. Where was Samuel, and what was he doing when the Lord called him?
12. How many times did Samuel go to Eli before they realized God was calling him?

### **Small Group**

#### **Game**

1. Near the end of the video, Samuel prayed to God on behalf of the people. This is called intercessory prayer. Do you think God heard Samuel's prayer?
2. How did God respond; what happened?

#### **Teaching**

1. Who listened to God's voice and obeyed Him in the Bible story?
2. Who didn't obey in our Bible story?
3. Does anyone know what instructions God gave to Adam?
4. Adam heard the instructions, but did he obey God?
5. God warned Eli about the evil things his sons were doing. Eli then spoke to his sons about their sin. Did they listen and obey?
6. So, does God only speak to people directly, like He spoke to Samuel?
7. Acts 2:17. What are some ways that this scripture says God may speak to us?
8. Acts 2:42. Did you hear some more ways that God may speak to our hearts?

#### **Discipleship Challenge**

1. Did you experience God's direction; did you feel like there was a time that He directed your steps? Please explain.

#### **Prayer**

1. What did Eli tell Samuel to answer when God called him again?

### **Additional Activities**

#### **Balloon Game**

1. Bat a balloon in the air as you speak. Is it easier to keep one balloon in the air—or two?

2. Attempt to keep two balloons in the air. How is this similar to listening and obeying?
3. Would it be much easier to just listen and not obey?

### **Object Lesson**

1. What is the purpose of a mirror?
2. Now, when you look in the mirror and see something that needs to be corrected or adjusted, do you ignore it?
3. A mirror shows what we look like on the outside. How is His Word different?

### **Connect the Dots Activity**

1. What do you think Samuel was thinking after the first two times Eli said that he had not called for him?
2. What do you think Eli thought when he believed that it was God calling Samuel—was Eli excited, perhaps, or a little afraid? Why?
3. Was there a time when you believed that God spoke to your heart, possibly when you were sleeping or in a dream?

### **Bible Study**

#### **Matthew 7:24–27**

1. In verse 24, what does Jesus call those who listen and follow His teaching?
2. In verse 26, what does Jesus call those who hear but do not obey?
3. After reading this Bible passage, who would you say was wise in the Bible story about Samuel?
4. Why was Samuel wise?
5. Who would you say was foolish?
6. Why were they foolish?
7. Why is the builder wise in this parable?
8. What would you say the storms represent in our lives?
9. Why is the other builder foolish?
10. From this passage then, in your own words, why is it important to listen and obey?

#### **James 1:22–25**

1. What does verse 22 say we are doing if we only listen to God's Word?
2. What does verse 23 compare disobedience to?
3. What do verse 23 and 24 mean in your own words?
4. What can we learn about ourselves by reading God's Word?
5. What does God's Word show us that we can't see with our physical eyes?
6. What are some reasons that people listen but choose not to obey?
7. According to verse 25, what can God's Word bring us?
8. In verse 25, what are we promised by choosing to listen and obey?