

Samuel and the Call of God: Lesson 3

SuperTruth: I will dedicate my life to the Lord.

SuperVerse: “As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable.” 1 Samuel 3:19 (NLT)

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 1–4, 7

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today, we will learn what it means to dedicate your life to the Lord. Hannah, Samuel’s mother, dedicated Samuel to the Lord—even before he was born!

- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet the prophet Samuel. He answers God’s call as a child, then grows up to become Israel’s leader. The children discover they’re never too young to serve God!
- Samuel lived a thousand years before Jesus was born, yet we can learn a lot about Jesus from Samuel’s life. Let’s watch our Signposts Video to learn how the story of Samuel points to Christ.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: I’m All In! (15 minutes)

Objective: Play a game to dedicate your entire life to God.

- Jesus also said we must love others. It is not possible to truly dedicate our lives to serve God without loving and serving others. In this game, you will shoot each strip into the box. This represents giving every part of yourself to God; putting ALL of you IN.

Game Instructions:

- Explain that by writing their names on the lines of the first four strips, they are committing or dedicating that part of themselves to God. The first two players will shoot all of their strips toward their team’s box to try to get them “ALL IN.” If a strip misses the box, the player must quickly pick it up and shoot it from where it landed until the player’s strips are “All In.”

Teaching: Dedicated to God’s Call (15 minutes)

Objective: The life of Samuel points to Jesus.

- Jesus and John the Baptist were cousins. They were both born about a thousand years after Samuel lived—yet all three men have some important things in common.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)

- Continue using your Footsteps Pattern, and look up the next scripture on your Dedication Card—Romans 12:1–2. Take time every day to dedicate your life to God, and ask Him to help you obey Him instead of copying what the world does.

SuperVerse: Superbook Erase (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- Samuel’s life was dedicated to God. The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up. Samuel spoke God’s Words and they all came to pass.
- Children will cover their eyes so they cannot see the board. Change a word or phrase of the SuperVerse. Children then look at the board and raise their hands to say what needs to be fixed.

Prayer: Dedication Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- Samuel’s mother dedicated him to the Lord just as she had promised God before he was born. Samuel belonged to God and served Him faithfully for his entire life! The most valuable thing that we can ever give God is our life.
- Let’s bow our heads and think a moment about all God has done for us. Repeat after me if you want to dedicate your life to the Lord today—whether it’s for the very first time, or you want to re-dedicate your life to Him again. Or, you may pray silently—He will hear you!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Holy Spirit Game: Play a game about the Holy Spirit’s power in our lives. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

Word Game: Play a game to guess words from the Bible story. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Coloring Activity: Color a page about Samuel at Mizpah. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Study: Discuss devotion to God and other things. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

Game Materials Needed:

- Dedication Sign
- Dedication Strip Pattern
- Two containers or boxes, the same size
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Pencils
- Children’s scissors

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Signpost Cards
- Three sheets of cardstock
- Optional: tape
- Footsteps Pattern and Dedication Card Pattern for any children who missed Lessons 1 and 2
- Sample patterns to display; see Lesson 1 for details
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Eraser
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App