

Samuel Obeys God

I Samuel 3:11-19

Samuel lay on his bed. It had been an unusual night. He had heard someone call his name three times. Each time he had jumped up and had run to Eli to see what he wanted. The third time this happened, Eli had told Samuel to listen for his name again because it was God speaking to him. Sure enough! As Samuel lay in his bed, God called his name again.

“Speak, Lord, for your servant hears,” Samuel had said.

Now Samuel lay in his bed, thinking about what God had told him. God had said He would punish Eli’s sons because they did such bad things. God had told this to Eli, too, but Eli had not spoken to his sons. They were workers in God’s house, but God was not pleased with their actions.

“Oh,” thought Samuel, “what will I tell Eli? He is sure to ask me in the morning what God said when He called me.”

Samuel did not want to make Eli unhappy by telling him that God was going to punish his sons. And Samuel did not want to tattle on his wicked sons. But Samuel knew that it was important to obey God.

Soon the sun was up, and Samuel had work to do. He opened the heavy curtains on the tabernacle door, letting in the bright morning sun.

“Samuel, Samuel,” called Eli, the priest. “What did God tell you last night?”

Samuel had a hard choice to make, but he wanted to please God. He knew he had to give Eli God’s message.

Samuel looked at Eli and told him everything. “God told me He will punish your sons for the wicked things they have done. He will do just what He told you He would do.”

Samuel had done it! He had obeyed God. Eli was sad to hear the message, but he knew that God always does the right thing.

As Samuel grew, he continued to love and obey God.

Bible Verse to Learn

“. . . We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29).