

“Listen Up” - LESSON 1

“Hearing God’s Voice”

Main Focus:

We must listen and obey
God’s voice above all!



Power Verse:

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.”
- John 10:27



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Will Listen And Obey God’s Voice!”

LEADER’S INFO

Listening to the right voices in life begins with listening to the most important voice of all time - God!

God speaks to people in many different ways - through His word, in prayer, and even through others. But can kids truly expect God to speak to them?

In this lesson, your kids will learn about a young boy named Samuel. Samuel was only a small boy, but He heard a voice in the middle of the night. He wasn’t sure if it was God or maybe just Eli the priest calling his name.

Could it actually have been God speaking to Samuel – even though he was just a kid? Well, the kids will learn all about how God will speak to each of them. They have to be willing to LISTEN UP and obey His voice.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Hearing God’s Voice”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Wiggy Pop teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Sally Yellsalot”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Blow It Up!”



Bible Story

“Samuel Listens To God’s Voice”



Power Verse Video

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.”

- John 10:27



Call To Action

“Hearing God’s Voice”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

We must listen and obey God’s voice
above all!



Power Verse:

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know
them, and they follow me.”

- John 10:27



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Will Listen And Obey God’s
Voice!”

Lesson 1 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 1 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Sally Yellsalot” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Blow It Up!” Graphic
- A Large Feather
- A Stopwatch

Bible Story

- “Samuel Listens to God’s Voice” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 1 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Hearing God’s Voice” Graphics
- Parking Cone
- Stethoscope

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Power Verse Print Piece
- One Bean Bag
- Paper Or Dry Erase Board
- John 10:27 Print Piece
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers
- Bible

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“Hearing God’s Voice”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

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Character Skit

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Offering Time

Game Time!

“Blow It Up!”

Bible Story

“Samuel Listens To God’s Voice”

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Call To Action

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Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today, we are starting a series called “Listen Up!” It’s all about how we have to be very careful which voices we listen to in this world.

I have a question for you. What do you think is the most important voice in our lives that we should DEFINITELY listen to? *(allow responses)*

While there are many voices we can and should listen to, the most important voice in our lives is God! But does God actually speak to kids? Can a kid really hear the voice of God? In order to get the answer to this very important question, I want you to watch this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 1”)

Leader: God really does speak to people. The Bible tells of many times God spoke to people to give them very important instructions, encouragement, and warnings. In fact, there are even several times in the Bible when God spoke directly to a kid. We are going to learn about one of those times today.

Right now, it’s time to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Sally Yellsalot” *(A young girl that is full of energy! She was raised by her grandparents who are hard of hearing, so she yells when she talks and gets pretty close to whoever she is talking to!)*

Sally: WOW! I finally made it! I’ve always wanted to come here. I’ve heard amazing things about this place!

Leader: Hi! Thanks for that! Who are you?

Sally: My name is Sally Yellsalot. I’ve never had anything like this. Look at all these kids! This is amazing!

Leader: You never had what, Sally?

Sally: I wasn’t able to be in a kid’s church like this. I was raised by my grandparents. They’re wonderful people, but they’re practically deaf! Anytime we went to church, I had to sit with them and make sure they were okay. I may be older now, but wow, it’s great to be in here! *(waving at different kids and yelling loudly, “Hi! Good to see you!”)*

Leader: Your grandparents are hard of hearing? So that explains it...

Sally: Explains what?

Leader: Oh, never mind. It’s so good to have you!

Sally: Thanks! So what kind of stuff goes on in here?

Leader: Oh, lots of things! We hang out...

Sally: I love hanging out! Here I am... hanging out! HA!

Leader: We worship...

Sally: OH! I love to worship! I am always singing. My favorite song is...

Leader: Let me guess. Is it “Shout To The Lord”?

Sally: Oh my goodness, YES! How did you know that?

Leader: Just a hunch.

Sally: I like the part that goes, “Mountains bow down and the seas will ROAR at the sound of Your name!”

Leader: I figured you would love that part of the song!
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CHARACTER SKIT

(continued)

Sally: My second favorite song is “Go Yell It On The Mountain!” *(starts to sing really loudly)* GO! YELL it on the mountain! Over the hills and everywhere! GO! YELL it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!”

Leader: That’s a great Christmas song, but I think it’s called “Go TELL It On The Mountain.”

Sally: I know, but I think it should be YELLED instead of just told! Don’t you? Here’s one more song I really love. It’s called, “Might Get Loud!” It goes, *(playing air guitar)* “Why can’t I praise Him as loud as I want?” *(louder)* “Why can’t I praise Him as loud as I want?”

Leader: That’s a good one, and it does get loud! We also teach a very important lesson each week from the Bible.

Sally: Oh, yes! That is important. I mean -VERY important! What are you teaching today?

Leader: Today, we begin a new series that will teach us how to listen to God. It’s called, “Listen Up!”

Sally: It’s very important that people listen. Sometimes I even raise my voice to make sure they can hear me.

Leader: Really? You raise your voice? Who could have imagined?

Sally: Well, I need to make sure I am being heard.

Leader: No problem there, Sally! Listen, today, we are learning how important it is to hear the voice of God. He speaks to us, and we need to listen.

Sally: I’ve never thought about that! I wonder what He sounds like. Maybe thunder? *(very loud)* BOOOOM! Or maybe like 1000 bass drums at one time! BOOOOOM! WOW! I would love to hear the voice of God!

Leader: Well, God is certainly able to speak to us out loudly! But a lot of the time, He speaks in many other ways. In fact, today, we are talking about a kid that heard God’s voice!

Sally: That sounds awesome! Well, I’d better get back to church and check on my grandparents. I’ll pop back in next week and say hello! Until then, I’m Sally Yellsalot, and I want you to know that Jesus *(singing loudly as she leaves)* “Makes me want to SHOUT! Hallelujah, thank you Jesus. Lord you’re worthy of all the glory, and all the honor and all the praise.”

(EXITS WHILE HER THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Blow It Up!”

Items Needed For Game:

A large feather; A stopwatch

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Preparation:

Choose one boy and one girl to compete in this game.

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How To Play:

Decide which player will go first. When you say, “Go!” the player must toss the feather up in the air and attempt to keep it afloat by blowing on it over and over. They are NOT allowed to touch the feather with any part of their body after it is airborne. The moment the feather touches the floor or any part of their body, their turn is over.

Use the stopwatch to see which player can keep the feather afloat the longest.
The one with the longest time wins!



Bible Story

“Samuel Listens To God’s Voice”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in 1 Samuel 3; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in 1 Samuel 3. It is all about a young boy named Samuel. Samuel was a boy who lived and worked in the temple for the priest Eli. (*show pic*) Can you imagine actually living in the church? How cool would that be?

Well, it wouldn’t be the same for Samuel as it might be for you today. There were no video games or bounce houses in the temple Samuel lived in. It was actually a lot of work for him as he served the priest.

One night, after a long day of working in the church, Samuel was sleeping. (*show pic*) Suddenly, he was awakened by the sound of someone calling his name. “Samuel!” He assumed it was the prophet, Eli, calling him. So Samuel got up and went to Eli’s room to ask what he wanted. Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.”

Samuel wasn’t sure what had happened, so he went back to sleep. A little while later, Samuel was awakened by the same thing. A voice called to him, “Samuel!” He got up and went back to Eli. Once again Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” So Samuel went back to sleep. Guess what? It happened again. “Samuel!” So once again, Samuel went to Eli. This time, Eli had a thought. He knew it wasn’t him that was calling Samuel. He thought maybe it could be God. (*show pic*) He told Samuel, “It is God. If He speaks again say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’”

So Samuel went back to sleep. Sure enough, it happened again. “Samuel!” This time, Samuel sat up in bed and said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” (*show pic*) God began to tell Samuel some very important things that were about to happen. Isn’t that amazing?

Samuel had to not only listen to God’s voice, but he also had to obey. It turns out that God told him to do something that was very difficult for Samuel. Samuel knew that he needed to not only LISTEN UP for God’s voice, but once God spoke, he needed to obey.

In your lesson today, you are going to learn all about how you must LISTEN UP and obey God’s voice. You must always seek to listen to God’s voice above all others. It’s not always easy, but it is always worth it!





Call To Action

“Hearing God’s Voice”

Materials Needed:

The “Hearing God’s Voice” graphics; parking cone; stethoscope

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Hearing God’s Voice”



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today, we began a new series called “Listen Up!” It’s all about the different voices that speak to us in our lives today. There are all kinds of voices that say all kinds of things to us. Some of those voices are helpful while some are not. Today, we are talking about the most important voice that all of us need to listen to. Do you remember who that is? *(allow response)* That’s right! It’s God’s voice!

Some people wonder, “With everything that God has to do as Ruler of the Universe, does He really take time to speak to people?” God took time to speak to people all throughout the Bible. He spoke to Abraham to tell him that he would be the father of many nations. He spoke to Noah to tell him to build an ark to save the world. He spoke to Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of Jesus. He spoke to many people all throughout the Bible, and He still speaks to people today.

You might be wondering, “Well, I get that God spoke to people in the Bible. But does He really take the time to speak to people today?” I am glad you asked. You will not find anywhere in the Bible where it says that God STOPPED speaking to His people. God has continued to speak to His people all throughout history, and He continues to today. And one thing we definitely learned from our Bible Story is...



God Spoke To Samuel When He Was A Kid *(slide)*

God didn’t look at Samuel and say, “I don’t think I can speak to him because he just isn’t old enough. Give him a few years, and then maybe I can talk to him.” No, God didn’t say that at all. In fact, God spoke to Samuel several times. He gave Samuel an important message to deliver. God believed in Samuel and trusted that he could handle the assignment that God was giving him. Isn’t that an incredible story?

Here’s something important to understand...



God Still Speaks To Kids *(slide)*

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Call To Action *(Continued)*

God didn’t STOP speaking to kids back in Bible times. No! In fact, He continues to speak to kids today. I know what you are probably thinking - “Well, how am I supposed to hear God’s voice?” *(pick up the parking cone and hold it up to one ear)* Am I supposed to hear God speaking all the way from Heaven? *(pretend that you are listening to God speak from Heaven)* “What’s that, God? You want me to do WHAT?”

Well, even though He CAN, most of the time God doesn’t speak to us with a booming voice from Heaven. Maybe you’ve heard that God speaks in something called a “still, small voice” and you are thinking you need one of these to be able to hear Him. *(pick up the stethoscope and put it around your neck and into your ears, aiming it up to Heaven)* “What’s that, God? You’re going to have to speak up! It’s hard to hear in here with all of these kids breathing so loudly!”

Obviously, neither of these are the best ways to hear God’s voice. Most of the time, God speaks to us in our hearts - in prayer. The goal is to quiet yourself in His presence and...

Listen And Obey God’s Voice *(slide)*



Much of the time, the reason you and I don’t hear God speaking to us is because we are so busy going about our daily lives that we don’t take time to slow down and listen to His voice. We have friends, sports, school, homework, church, family, TV, music - all kinds of things fighting for our attention. We must LISTEN UP for God’s voice. Once He speaks, we must obey.

ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Tell the children that you are going to take time to listen to God. Turn on some soft worship music if you wish. Tell the children that they should pray and ask God to speak to them. Then, spend a few minutes being still in God’s presence. LISTEN UP for His voice. It may not come out loud, but He will speak if we listen. Once the Lord speaks to their hearts, have the kids write down what God is telling them. It might be something specific that He has planned for them to do. If so, pray that they will obey exactly what God is speaking to them.



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “I Will Listen And Obey God’s Voice!”

2. Whose voice is the most important for us to LISTEN UP for?

Answer: God’s

3. True or False: “God only talks to adults.”

Answer: False

4. What kid did we learn about in today’s Bible Story?

Answer: Samuel

5. Who did Samuel think was calling his name at first?

Answer: The Priest, Eli

6. What did Eli tell Samuel to respond with if God called him again?

Answer: “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

7. According to our lesson today, “God Spoke To Samuel When He Was A _____.”

Answer: Kid

8. According to our lesson today, “God Still _____ To Kids.”

Answer: Speaks

9. According to our lesson today, “Listen And _____ God’s Voice.”

Answer: Obey

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: John 10:27