

When children and parents have faith discussions regularly, faith multiplies.



Faith at Home

Parent Handout

Theme of the Sunday: *The Lord Speaks to Samuel*

Verse of the Sunday: *Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"[a] and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6 The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." 1 Samuel 3:1-10*

Message/Moral of the day: *Some people think that God only calls adults, however, the story of Samuel is an example that God also calls children to Himself. Samuel was just a young boy when God called him. God knows your name just as he knew the name of Samuel and God still calls kids and adults today into priesthood, and noble callings and professions. So, listen for God's call and answer just as Samuel did, "Here I am!"*

Faith at Home:

- *Take time to talk about how you've been called to become who you are now*
- *Brainstorm with your children and define a few ways they can develop professionally as adults*
- *Talk about how your calling. Profession makes a good difference in people's lives*

Prayer & Worship: *Dear Heavenly Father, today we are listening for your call. Perhaps you have something special for us to do. When you call, we will answer, "Here I am." Amen.*

Liturgical Calendar: *St. Vahan of Goghthn*

As a young child, Vahan was taken into custody with many other children of Armenian nobility who had been killed because of their Christian belief. He was taken to Damascus where he was taught, together with other children, the Islamic faith. He was well liked by the Arab leaders and attained a high position in the court. While serving in court, the Arab overlords granted the Armenian children, who had grown to adulthood, the right to return home. Vahan promised his overlord that he would return but, after returning to Armenia, his overlord died and Vahan felt he was released from his promise.

Vahan married and established himself over the lands of his father who was killed prior to his captivity. The Arab overlords, however, demanded Vahan's return and started to pursue him. He fled from place to place for many years, leaving his family and home. At each place he went, the people became endangered because of his presence so he finally decided to surrender himself, explain his desire to remain in Armenia, and practice his own religion. The policeman governing Armenia had him immediately thrown into prison and, after many kinds of torture, he was finally beheaded. His life and martyrdom were recorded and, according to some traditions, the melody and lyric of the sharagans dedicated to this saint were written by his sister.