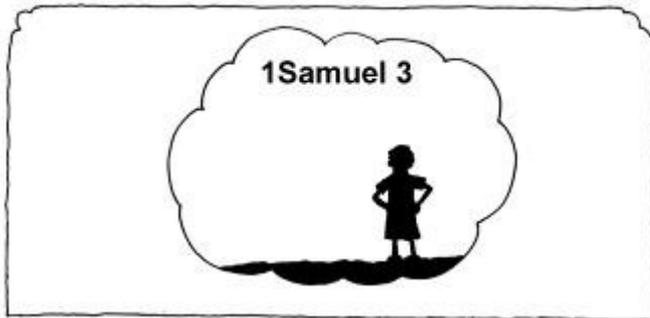


SAMUEL hears from God

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By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



When Hannah asked God
for a baby
she made a promise
to give her child to God.



Hannah made a promise to give her child to God.
When he was old enough, she took Samuel
to help Eli at the temple.
Samuel loved helping Eli.



One night Samuel was in his bed.
God called Samuel's name.
Samuel sat up and looked around.
"Eli must be calling me," he said.



"Eli, I am here," said Samuel.
"Do you want me?"
"No, Samuel, I didn't call you."
Samuel didn't know it was God calling his name.



He lay down in his bed and
God called his name again. "Samuel."
He ran straight to Eli.
"I am here. I heard you calling me."



Eli was tired and grumpy.
"NO, I did NOT call you!
Get into bed and go to sleep.
STOP waking me up."



He heard his name again!
Then Eli knew God was calling Samuel.
"Next time," Eli said, "say,
I am listening and God will speak to you,"



So, Samuel listened.
God called his name and talked to him.
Samuel listened for God's words
and loved God all his life.