

*When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.*

Program A-1

## Samuel Judges Israel

1 Samuel 7:2-17

Samuel and Kings Series: Lesson #3

Bible Verse: Obey the LORD your God. (Deut. 27:10)  
Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10  
God hears us when we pray. Psalm 34:17

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: God blessed Israel when they were obedient and listened to God's message from Samuel. We should obey God's commandments.

Prop ideas: Bible, Picture of stone tablets (10 commandments), Jewish Tefilin (small boxes with scripture parchments) or Mezuzah (Small parchment scroll of Torah verses affixed to doorposts), Deut. 6:4-9

### SAMPLE STORY

“The LORD was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of His words fall to the ground.” (1 Sam. 3:19) As Samuel grew older, he continued to serve God in the tabernacle. Samuel listened closely to everything God told him. The bible tells us that all of Israel recognized that Samuel was special; he was a prophet from God. A prophet is someone who speaks for God to the people. He teaches them what is right and wrong.

Israel had been fighting with the Philistines. They lost many battles because God was not with them. The Israelites had started worshiping the false gods of their neighbors. They built towers or poles and idols. God was very angry, so He did not help Israel in their battles. Samuel told all the people of Israel “If you return to the LORD with all your hearts and get rid of the foreign gods, obey God and serve only Him, then He will give you victory over the Philistines.” (1 Samuel 7:3). The people listened to Samuel. They tore down their towers and idols and obeyed God. God then helped the Israelites defeat the Philistines. To remember this, Samuel set up a stone and called it Ebenezer and said, “The lord has helped us.” Ebenezer means *stone of help*.

It is important for all of us to obey God. He blesses us and helps us when we are obedient. We learn to obey God from the Bible. Can you remember any Bible verses that teach us God's commandments?



Do: Let the children color their shoe page. Cut out and add Bible verse.

Talk about: When we obey the commandments of God, we are following him...like walking in His footprints or shoes. How can we obey God? (Pray, worship, be kind, obey parents, help, etc.)

## EBENEZER ROCK SNACK

Materials: Donut Holes or Hard Cookie  
Paper plates

Do: Pass out snack and eat.

Talk about: Our snack today looks a little like a rock. After the Israelites defeated the Philistines one time, Samuel set up a stone and called it '*Ebenezer*', which means '*stone of help*' because "The LORD has helped us." The LORD helped them because they obeyed the LORD through Samuel.