



Old Testament 3

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

My sin is great, and I am not holy as God demands. **Christ became unholy with my sin that I might become holy in His righteousness.**

Bible Words

Serve the LORD with gladness!
Psalm 100:2

Sing

As Samuel spoke, so we sing,
“Speak, O Lord, your servant listens, Let Your Word to me come near” (LSB 589:1).

Fun Fact

The name *Samuel* sounds like the Hebrew phrase “heard of God.”

God’s Servant Samuel

1 Samuel 1–3

The three-hundred-year period of the judges closed as God raised Samuel as a judge, priest, and prophet. His mother, Hannah, dedicated Samuel to serve the Lord to fulfill her vow to God. He lived at the tabernacle with Eli, the high priest, from the time he was a small child.

Surprisingly, the Lord spoke directly to the child Samuel and gave him a message for Eli. Three times, a voice called Samuel’s name; and three times, he went to Eli to see what he needed. Finally, Eli realized the voice was the Lord. He told Samuel to reply, “Speak, LORD, for your servant hears” (1 Samuel 3:9).

The Lord told Samuel He would soon punish Eli and his household. Eli’s sons disrespected their work as priests, the people’s sacrifices, the people, and the Lord Himself. They refused Eli’s discipline. Their sin was “very great in the sight of the LORD” (2:17). Not long after, Eli and his sons all died on the same day.

God was with Samuel as he grew and “let none of his words fall to the ground” (3:19). Everything he said was fulfilled, and the people recognized him as God’s prophet. He spoke for God, preached His Word, and pointed to the coming Savior. He anointed Israel’s first two kings, Saul and David.

Hannah’s Song

In a song, Hannah, Samuel’s mother confessed that God’s ways are not our ways. He is the Lord of reversals, who “makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and He exalts” (2:7). Jesus, our Savior, demonstrated this great reversal. He became unholy with our sin so that we might become holy in His righteousness. He became poor to make us rich. He was killed to make us alive. He soaks up our sins and floods us with His grace.

Prayer

Gracious Lord, open our ears so we can hear Your Word. Open our hearts so we can serve You with gladness. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.