

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

AS YOU READ CHAPTER 10

Journal your answers to these questions as you read through the chapter this week. You may wish to read one day and journal the next, or spread the questions over the whole week. Bible readings that correspond with this week's reading can be found at www.hopewdm.org.

1. What do we learn from Hannah and Samuel about prayer? When have you poured out your heart before God? Has there been a time when you did more listening than speaking in prayer? Talking and Listening are both important elements of prayer; ask for God's help and try practicing both this week.
2. How did Eli help Samuel know when he was hearing the voice of God? How can you tell when God is speaking to you? Who has helped you to be more faithful in listening to God? How did they help?
3. Samuel was probably 12 year old when God called him to be a prophet to Eli and all of Israel. He was required to speak the truth in love to his mentor and friend. Have you ever been in this position? What did you do and how was God present?
4. Samuel was hurt that the Israelites wanted a king, instead of remembering God was their king and trusting Him. Why was desiring a king such a temptation for the Israelites? When have you found it hard to trust God as your provider and leader?
5. Why do you think it was hard for Saul to admit to Samuel when he had disobeyed? (p. 142-143) Rate yourself from 1-10 on your ability to own up to your mistakes. What in your life is keeping you from admitting your mistakes and asking for forgiveness? Ask God for guidance.
6. God repeatedly chooses the least and the last to accomplish His will. This week, we see God use Hannah, a woman struggling with fertility, to bear the next wise priest to speak God's wisdom to the Israelites. What could God be doing through you today?

PRAYER

God,
 Help me to see myself and others not with the belittling eyes of this world, but only as You see me truly, as Your beloved, created just for what You intend. Give me courage like David to step with faith along the path You lead me, no matter how terrifying the challenge. Whether with fear or confidence, may I cry out, O God my fortress. Amen.