



Helping Kids Use Boredom God's Way

When There's Nothing Fun to Do

Lesson Aim

Kids will learn that boredom is not wasted time. God can use quiet, ordinary moments to help us hear God's voice and notice His presence.

Scripture Focus

- "Speak, Lord, for your servant hears." (1 Samuel 3:9, *ESV*)
- "Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10, *ESV*)

Connect

- **Connection Point:** Ask: "Have you ever been bored and felt like there was nothing fun to do? What do you usually do when that happens?"

Teach

- **Bible Story:** Read or retell the story of Samuel Listening to God in the Night (1 Samuel 3:1–21).

Samuel was a young boy who lived in the temple, helping the priest Eli. Every day, Samuel did ordinary jobs—sweeping floors, opening doors, and learning about God. It might not have seemed very exciting. In fact, one night while everything was quiet, Samuel was lying down to sleep when something surprising happened.

He suddenly heard a voice call his name: "Samuel!" Samuel jumped up and ran to Eli, saying, "Here I am!" But Eli shook his head and said, "I didn't call you. Go back to bed." Samuel lay down again, but the voice came a second time: "Samuel!" Again, he ran to Eli. "Here I am!" But Eli said, "I didn't call you, my son. Go lie down."



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A third time, Samuel heard the voice: “Samuel!” Once again he ran to Eli. This time, Eli realized something very important—God was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If He calls you again, say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’”

Samuel went back to bed. When the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” he answered just as Eli had taught him: “Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.” And that night, God gave Samuel his first message.

Samuel learned that even in quiet times, when it seems like nothing is happening, God can speak. Waiting and listening made space for Samuel to hear God’s voice.

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. What did Samuel do when he first heard God’s voice?
2. Why do you think God chose to speak in the middle of the quiet night?
3. What can we do when we feel bored to help us listen for God?

- **Explain:**

- Boredom isn’t just empty time. It can be a gift that helps us slow down and hear from God.
- Just like Samuel, we can learn to say, “Speak, Lord, I’m listening” when we feel like there’s nothing to do.

Model

- **Teacher shares:** a personal example of a time when you were bored or quiet and God helped you notice something or gave you peace.
- **Student activity:** Invite kids to role-play Samuel’s story: one child plays Samuel, another plays Eli, and a third plays the voice of God. Afterward, let them act out or draw their own “bored moments” where they could stop, listen, and say, “Speak, Lord, I’m listening.”

Pray

- *“Lord, thank You for teaching us that boredom isn’t wasted time. Help us, like Samuel, to listen for Your voice when things are quiet. Teach us to say, ‘Speak, Lord, we are listening.’ Amen.”*

Craft/Activity

- Provide each child with a small paper door hanger. On one side, they write: “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” On the other side, they draw something they can do when they feel bored (pray, read, draw, rest). Kids can hang it on their bedroom door as a reminder that boredom can be a time to listen for God.

Key Takeaway

- Boredom can open space for God.