

Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp 2025

Class Curriculum - The Christian Life

Age - Junior Campers

Friday - Holiness

Summary

1. Subject: Holiness
2. Scripture: 1 Peter 1:13-2:12, 1 Samuel 3:1-21
3. Grade/Level: Junior Campers
4. Objective: Help your campers understand the holiness of God and how our lives will change when we share in His holiness
5. Time Allotment: 1 Hour

Prayer: Don't forget to begin and end your class with a prayer! If possible, have a camper lead one or both of these prayers.

Overview

This week's classes will focus on ethics, or in other words, "Christian Living". This will be applied differently to every age group. For Junior Campers, each class will begin with a story from the Bible, which can be read from scripture, read aloud from a children's bible storybook, or told by the teacher. Then, there will be a brief lesson/discussion to reiterate the main points from the story, followed by games and activities.

Today's lesson will focus on holiness. When we live Christian Lives, we will be holy like God is holy. The scripture for today is 1 Peter 1:14-16, which is our commandment to be holy like God is holy. The story to convey holiness is The Lord Calling Samuel, from 1 Samuel 3:1-21.



Story

10-15 minutes

The Lord Calling Samuel

Samuel is a prophet of the Lord with an interesting background. His mother, Hannah, had tried to have children but could not for a long time. She prayed to God and asked for a child, and God answered her prayer. She had a son and named him Samuel. In return for God's answered prayer, Hannah gave Samuel to be raised by the priest in the temple. Samuel, from his birth, was set apart from a normal upbringing so that he could focus on God.

In 1 Samuel 3, we read about the Lord calling out to Samuel and choosing him to be a great prophet. Tell this story to your campers at an age-appropriate level. A brief summary is below.

- Samuel was a young boy, dedicated to the temple. He lived there with the priest, Eli.
- One night, after everyone is asleep, the Lord calls out Samuel's name.
- Samuel thinks the priest, Eli, called for him, so he goes to see Eli. Eli tells him he did not call for Samuel and tells Samuel to go back to bed.
- This happens again, and Eli tells Samuel again to go back to bed.
- This happens a third time. Eli tells Samuel that it is the voice of the Lord and that Samuel should answer God next time.
- Samuel goes back to bed, where he hears the Lord call his name again. Samuel says, "Speak, for your servant hears".
- God tells Samuel about His plans for Israel. From this night onward, God was with Samuel. God made Samuel into a great prophet, and Samuel spent the rest of his life working for the Lord.

This story tells us about holiness in many ways. "Holiness" means being "set apart for good". Samuel was dedicated to the temple when he was a baby. He was set apart for the purpose of working for the Lord. Even at the temple, God sets him apart from the others by calling out to Him and talking with him. God goes on to continue working in Samuel's life. Samuel was set apart for God's purposes and did exactly what God asked him to do his whole life. This combination of righteousness and separateness is an example of biblical holiness.

Lesson/Discussion

15 Minutes

Guided Discussion: Often, holiness is described as “separate” or “set apart”, but this is not the full picture. Holiness is a righteous distinctiveness. It is being noticeably different from the world around you. Separate from the world and more like God. Set apart from the world and set aside for God’s purposes.

Ask your campers, “**Do you ever feel different from the people around you? How does being different make you feel?**” There are many simple ways in which we are different from each other, but sometimes, feeling different can be stressful for younger children. As the teacher, give some examples of things that made you feel different when you were younger and how you managed those feelings.

Feeling different isn’t always easy. Most of the time, we want to fit in and be like our friends. But when God calls us to be holy, He is asking us to be different. Ask, “**What are some ways in which God wants us to be different from the world around us?**”. At an age-appropriate level, give some examples. In class yesterday, we discussed humility, which is one way that God wants us to be different than the world. Refusing to watch certain TV shows or say certain words may be another.

For Samuel, an important part of his holiness was listening to God. Ask, “**How do we listen to God today?**”. God won’t call out our names in the night like He did for Samuel. Instead, God has given us His inspired word: the Bible. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says that the Bible is the inspired word of God and is enough for our spiritual lives to be complete.

Read 1 Peter 1:14-16 together as a class. God calls us to be holy in all things, just like He is holy. Holiness is both inward and outward. Ask, “**What are examples of inward holiness?**”. Things like developing habits of prayer, bible study, and thankfulness are positive examples. Avoiding sin, mean thoughts, and laziness are inverse examples. Ask, “**What are examples of outward holiness?**”. Make these examples practical in the day-to-day lives of your campers. Some may include consistently obeying your parents, forgiving others, and being a good example.



Activity/Illustration

Activity

“Who’s Calling?”

For this game, two campers will play at a time while the others watch. Pick a camper to be “Samuel” and have them close their eyes or wear a blindfold. Pick another camper to call out, “Samuel! Samuel!”. “Samuel” will try to recognize the voice and has two tries to guess which one of their friends called their name. Just like in our bible story, it can be easy to get voices mixed up.

Make sure each camper takes a turn as “Samuel” and the caller. Keep it random so that it’s not easy to guess.

For added fun, use silly voices when calling out so that your voice is harder to recognize.

“Samuel Says”

Play “Simon Says”, but instead of Simon saying commands, give commands to “Samuel”. If campers hear a command to “Samuel,” they should follow it. If the command is not given to “Samuel,” they should not. Campers can take turns giving the commands.