

Children of the Bible

I	S	E	H	S	I	F	H	T	I	W	Y	O	B	J
O	B	A	T	H	S	H	E	B	A	S	S	O	N	D
S	D	O	B	A	H	C	I	M	E	U	T	Z	H	J
N	Y	O	B	C	I	N	O	M	E	D	L	T	E	U
N	O	B	L	E	M	A	N	S	S	O	N	R	D	Z
W	V	N	D	Y	N	R	X	A	W	S	O	W	Y	U
P	L	U	O	Z	U	P	T	F	D	B	W	A	R	T
M	V	E	F	S	O	K	A	P	O	O	J	D	H	G
D	L	J	U	H	S	H	X	A	J	K	H	J	I	Y
W	N	T	X	M	A	D	M	M	N	C	Y	R	C	H
S	G	N	W	Y	A	S	I	H	D	Y	D	Z	R	O
D	B	Y	N	X	S	S	M	V	W	G	N	X	N	R
D	B	Y	K	O	M	I	C	H	A	U	G	H	R	N
N	X	K	N	T	W	K	K	V	V	D	N	E	Y	S
J	H	P	I	H	U	O	B	N	L	J	O	A	Q	P

Words to Find:
 Bathsheba's son
 Boy with fishes
 David's son
 Demonic boy
 Ichabod
 Jeroboam's son
 Mahershalalhashbaz
 Micha
 Nobleman's son
 Rhoda
 Samuel
 Sarah
 Zeresh

Too Little?

Author Unknown

Said a precious little laddie,
 To his father one bright day,
 "May I give myself to Jesus,
 Let Him wash my sins away?"

"Oh my son, but you're too little,
 Wait until you older grow,
 Bigger folk, 'tis true, do need Him
 But little folks are safe, you
 know."

Said the father to his laddie
 As a storm was coming on,
 Are the sheep safely sheltered,
 Safe within the fold, my son?"


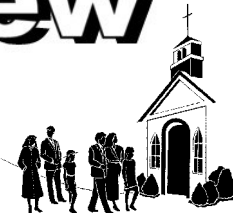
"All the big ones are, my father,
 But the lambs, I let them go,
 For I didn't think it mattered
 Little ones are safe, you know."

Oh, my brother! On, my sister!
 Have you too made that mistake?
 Little hearts that now are yielding
 May be hardened then — too late.

E'er the evil days come nigh
 them,
 "Let the children come to me,
 And forbid them not," said Jesus,
 "For such shall my Kingdom be."



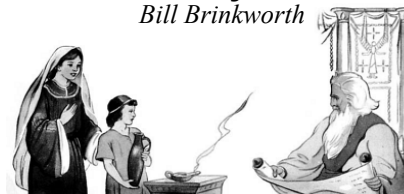
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An Early Start

Bill Brinkworth



No matter the age, God desires us to have a willing heart. Some of the most capable, talented people have been rejected for use by God because of being rigid, self-willed, stubborn, and not obeying God's commands. Young Samuel, as found in I Samuel 3, was a child that was not self-willed, but rather was willing to be used by God.

He was a much-desired son of his mother. The barren Hannah had prayed to the Lord for a child. She had promised the Lord, if she were to have a boy, that she would dedicate that child to the service of God. Her prayers were answered, and she kept her promise.

After the child was of an age that he could be sent away, the young Samuel was put to use in the temple, and was to help Eli,

the priest. The boy was separated from his family.

Continued on Page 2

Won by His Parent's Love

Charles H. Spurgeon

A young man who had grown up, left the parental roof. Through evil influences, he became skeptical of the things of God. His father and mother were both earnest Christians, and it almost broke their hearts to see their son so opposed to the Redeemer. On one occasion they induced him to go with them to hear a celebrated preacher. He accompanied them simply to please them, and for no other motive.

The sermon happened to be upon the glories of heaven. It was a very extraordinary sermon, and was designed to make every Christian in the audience look forward to heaven.

The young man was much gratified with the eloquence of the preacher, but nothing more. He gave him credit for superior

Continued on Page 3

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An Early Start

Continued from Page 1

The priesthood was a special, highly respected position that only a Levite, as Eli was, could fill. Eli's sons would have been next in line to take Eli's responsibilities, but they chose not to serve God. They became wicked and sinned much. Eli did not correct or discipline them correctly, and their sins increased. God was angry at Eli, for not being the parent he should have been, and with his sons for not being obedient.

Young Samuel's heart was much different. The young boy could have had the excuse, "I don't have my parents here; I'm all alone." He could have called himself a victim and been miserable, like so many do; but he did not. He did what he was told, and developed a willing attitude: just what God was looking for.

One night, the sleeping boy was awakened by a voice that called him. Thinking it was his master, he ran to Samuel to see what he had been summoned to do. The awakened priest sent him away; as he had not called for him.

Again, the voice called out his name, "Samuel." Once again, the youngster ran to Eli. He was promptly sent back.

**"Children, obey your parents
in all things: for this is well
pleasing unto the Lord."**

— *Colossians 3:20*

Later the child was awakened a third time by the same voice. This time the priest felt the Lord may have been calling the child. The Bible, as we know it, was not given to the people at that time, and God spoke to men and women of God audibly many times. Eli thought this was one of those times. He advised the child, if he were called again to answer, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth."

The voice spoke to the child the fourth time, and he responded as he had been instructed. It was from this first step of obedience, that God first used this boy. He would later be a great man of God. His life would soon be changed, because he made himself available to be used. This young man was used of God because:

He submitted to authority and obeyed his guardian and God. He did not live with his parents, but he obeyed Eli as he would have his parents — *I Sam. 3:4-10*.

The two sons of Eli could have been used as Samuel was, but they chose not to serve God. God will not use the disobedient for His glory.

He was truthful. The message that God gave young Samuel was that God was going to kill both of Eli's sons (*I Samuel 3:12-14*), because of their tremendous sin. As much as the child did not want to give the priest that bad news of judgment; he obeyed God and

Eli, and told Eli God's message (*I Samuel 3:18*).

He had a good testimony. As he grew, much of Israel could see that Samuel was much different from Eli's son. They knew that he was a prophet sent from God; even though he was young (*I Samuel 3:20*).

He was trusted by God. All throughout the two books of Samuel, one can read the mighty things God performed through His obedient servant, Samuel. His life of service all started, because he was willing, and he obeyed.

Over 3,100 years have passed since this story occurred. God, however, has not changed. There is much that God still wants done in this world. God chooses to use people to perform many of His tasks for the inhabitants of His creation. He is still looking for those who would have the same willing and obedient attitude of young Samuel. Saying "no" to a simple request from God can sever a life-time of being used by God. One that wants to be used by God should submit to authorities over him, be truthful, and be a good example of a Christian whom God uses. An early start in obeying God will build a strong foundation for the future.

Won by His Parent's ...

Continued from Page 1

oratorical ability, and was interested in the sermon, but felt none of its power.

He chanced to look at his

father and mother during the discourse, and was surprised to see them weeping. He could not imagine why they, being Christian people, should sit and weep under a sermon which was most jubilant in its strain. When he reached home, he said, "Father, we have had a capital sermon, but I could not understand what could make you sit there and cry, and my mother too."

His father said, "My dear son, I certainly had no reason to weep concerning myself, nor your mother, but I could not help thinking through the sermon about you, for I have no hope that you will ever see the bright joys which await the righteous. It breaks my heart to think that you will be shut out of heaven."

His mother said, "The very same thoughts crossed my mind, and the more the preacher spoke of the joys of the saved, the more I sorrowed for my dear boy that he should never know what they were."

That touched the young man's heart, led him to seek his father's God, and before long he was at the same church, rejoicing in the God and Savior whom his parents worshipped. His parent's love for him is what showed him the way to the Saviour's love.

**"A mother holds her
children's hands for a
while, but their hearts
forever."**