

Bible Study for March 4, 2018  
I Samuel 1:1-20; 24-28  
Teaching Plan by Dr. Williamson

NOTE to TEACHERS: One of the things we do as teachers is make disciples. That is so much more than “teaching lessons” each Sunday morning. My plan is to use this particular lesson to try and teach how to have a Daily Quiet Time with God, or to encourage class members in this area.

The Bible study method I am using is designed to show people they can read the Bible on their own, and they can hear God speak through His word. They don’t HAVE to rely on a teacher or a preacher to hear God’s word.

This method I’m using today is called an “inductive Bible study.” Many churches use this method for ALL of their small groups, meaning each and every week. Here’s an illustration about an Inductive Bible study:

Often times, as teachers, we study all week looking for “diamonds” to share with our classes. An inductive approach tries to teach everyone how to “mine the diamonds” for themselves. This approach works very well when using “stories” from the Bible. I am presenting this method today because of the opportunity to help people learn to study the Bible on their own, especially in their Daily Quiet Time with God.

#### CREATE INTEREST

1. SAY: Our study of Luke has come to a conclusion, and we move into the Old Testament to study the book of 1 Samuel. In order to bring everyone to a similar historical starting point, let’s review the following major people of the Old Testament who God used or worked through in order to bring His son into our world to be our Savior.

BEFORE CLASS, write the following names on the marker board (or make a handout); (but not the descriptors...you will use the names as “talking points”).

2. Go thru list of names and give brief history (five minutes) to get to Samuel.

Abram (Abraham): Age 75; God called him from Ur; told him to leave his country and family and God would make him the father of a great nation.

Sarai (Sarah): Abraham’s wife. Barren.

Hagar: Sarah’s Handmaid; Sarah allowed Abraham to sleep with her in order to try and make good on the “promised child” from God.

Ishmael: Abraham’s son from Hagar; but not the promised child. Born approx. 16 years before Isaac.

Isaac (“God laughs”): God gives Abraham and Sarah a child at the age of nearly 100. Sarah laughed when she was told she would have a baby at this age.

Rebekah (Isaac’s wife). A special search was made from among Abraham’s relatives to find a wife for Isaac.

Esau and Jacob: Twin sons of Isaac, Esau the first twin. He sells his birthright to Jacob. Then on another occasion, Jacob steals his blessing from their father, Isaac.

Laban: an uncle; also a match for Jacob. Gives Jacob two daughters in marriage, but only after deceiving Jacob and making Jacob work for him for 14 years.

Leah and Rachel. These are Laban's daughters who become Jacob's wives. (They each also have a hand-maiden who also become wives of Jacob). Jacob has 12 sons by these 4 women, who become the 12 tribes of Israel. Jacob leaves Laban, has a dream and wrestles with God. God gives him a new name, "Israel."

Joseph: favorite son of Jacob with Rachel. Treated special by his father. Brothers resent Joseph and sell him into slavery in Egypt. Joseph becomes 2<sup>nd</sup> in command under Potipher the Pharaoh. Jacob and family ultimately move to Egypt. After Joseph dies, the kings no longer remember Joseph and the Israelites become slaves to the Egyptians.

Moses—Prince of Egypt; raised by Pharaoh's daughter. He murders an Egyptian so forced to flee Egypt. Runs to Midian. Called by God to be the deliverer of God's people.

Aaron. Moses brother. Becomes Moses' mouth piece. Together, they lead Israelites out of Egypt and journeys to God's promised land.

Joshua: Leads God's people to possess the promised land.

The Israelites live in tribes in the promised land, led by God's judges and prophets. Tribes were separate but would help each other in times of battle.

This is the scene when Samuel was born. Samuel will become the last judge, or some call him a prophet.

#### GUIDE BIBLE STUDY

3. SAY: We're going to use an "inductive Bible study" teaching method today. It's a great way to pattern your Daily Quiet time, meaning you can use this same format as you read the Bible for yourself each day. This method works especially well when reading stories from the Bible, like today. Inductive Bible study is reading God's word, and looking specifically for the answer to, "What does the Bible say?" We don't speculate; but we find as many answers as we can from the Biblical text.

4. Have volunteers reading aloud the entire passage twice, from two different translations: I Samuel 1:1-20; 24-28. (In your Quiet Time, you would also read the passage twice each day, preferably from two different translations).

5. Have the class close their Bibles and collectively (adding on to each other) re-tell the entire story with as many details as possible. (Encourage and praise them as they remember the details!) Tell them it's important to be able to verbalize what you've read, and that's the reason for the re-telling of what was recorded in the Bible.

6. After reading, the group will collectively answer the following six questions, one at a time. (You will need to give them 30 seconds to think, as you introduce each question).

There are no pre-determined answers, only what your class sees in the text. When someone "answers," have them start by saying, "verse (number) says..." As needed, have members "clarify" their observation by explaining what they mean.

Question 1: What does the text say about God? (Remember, have class refer to specific verse when they offer an answer.)

For example only:

Vs. 3 –says God is Almighty, and He desires man to worship Him.

Vs. 6- says the Lord knows the situation of each person: i.e. "the Lord had closed her womb."

Vs. 17 says God is "the God of Israel"

Vs.19- 20 says God listens to our prayers and answers according to His plan: “The Lord remembered her; because I asked the Lord for him.”

Question 2: What does the text say about Man? (Again, refer to specific verse).

For Example only (let your class figure out even better answers!)

Vs. 6 says man can be mean - “her rival kept provoking her”

Vs. 8 says man can be compassionate – her husband tries to soothe her by saying, “Why are you downhearted?”

Vs. 14 shows that man can easily jump to the wrong conclusions - “how long will you keep getting drunk?”

Vs. 20 says man has access to God through prayer - “I asked the Lord for him.”

Question 3: Is there “sin” to avoid? (Let them go thru and find examples, just like you’ve done on the previous two questions.)

Vs. 6 says Peninnah would provoke or hurt the feelings of Hannah.

Vs. 21 implies sin has taken place because they go to the temple to offer a sacrifice and pay a vow.

Vs. 13 shows Eli jumping to false conclusions about Hannah

Question 4: Is there a “promise” to trust? (follow the same pattern, and let class find examples)

Question 5: Is there a “example” to follow? (allow class to find examples)

Question 6: Is there a “command” to obey? (Allow class to find examples).

7. Tell the class to write down these 6 questions in the front of their Bible.

Then, every day when they do their quiet time, look for answers to these 6 questions. Remind that God speaks to each of us personally, through His Word.

#### APPLY TO LIFE

8. SAY: The last question is a personal question, that you will do silently on your own through silent prayer. We’re going to give a couple of minutes for you to pray and ask God this question:

Question 7: What is God telling you to do in this passage? What action does God want you to do?

You could give this example if necessary: In doing an inductive Bible study, one of the ladies in Brad’s class felt led to go and buy a \$25 gift card for a co-worker. So she did. She gave the gift card to the lady at work saying, “God told me to give you this card.” The co-worker was so touched, and the lady got to share some of her Christian story with the co-worker. That’s being a Christian witness, which is what God wants every individual Christian to be and do each day!

9. Allow class to pray silently, asking God “what do you want me to do?” Allow silence for prayer.

10. Close in spoken prayer.

11. SAY: Next week, I’m going to ask you: How did you see God work in your life as a result of being obedient to Him and doing what He told you to do today.