

The boy Samuel was born in answer to the prayer of his mother, who promised to give her child to the Lord. One night when Samuel was still a young boy, the Lord spoke to him. At first, Samuel thought it was the voice of the priest Eli. But Eli told him that it must be the Lord speaking to him. And so the next time that Samuel heard the voice, he said, "Lord, I am your servant. Speak, and I will listen." Samuel became the Lord's prophet and always listened when the Lord spoke to him. Then he would tell the people everything he had heard from the Lord.

