

# Youth Teaching Resources

December 27, 2015



## Hope Waits

A Time for Praise — Luke 1:68-79

A Time for Joy — Zephaniah 3:14-20

A Time for Peace — Micah 5:2-5a

## Season of Christmas

**A Time for Growth — 1 Samuel 2:18-26**

## [www.baptiststoday.org](http://www.baptiststoday.org)

Subscribe to *Baptists Today* to access the core Bible content for this lesson.

## [www.nurturingfaith.net](http://www.nurturingfaith.net)

Find links and videos related to this lesson.

# A Time for Growth

1 Samuel 2:18-26

## YOUTH Teaching Guide

by Jeremy Colliver

This youth teaching outline is designed to support THE BIBLE LESSON by Tony Cartlege, printed in *Baptists Today*. You can subscribe to either the digital or print edition of *Baptists Today* to access the lessons. Please also ensure that each person in your class has a copy of *Baptists Today* so they can prepare before the lesson.

### TEACHER PREPARATION: YOUTH AND THIS LESSON

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You can do everything right and everything by the book and everything can still go wrong. The opposite is true as well: you just wing it and everything can turn out wonderfully. It is frustrating to know that you do all you can and sometimes it doesn't matter. But the reality is that our students still have to choose for themselves. They have to make the choice to live a life that brings life and builds up the Kingdom of God. But that doesn't mean that we stop or give up. We are not called to serve because of the results that we get but because we are called to serve. As the new year begins, commit to serving all of your students, no matter the choices that they make.

### TEACHING THE LESSON

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#### Fellowship

Before your session begins, create a list of several scenarios where the students will have to choose between two things. These can begin as simple as chocolate or vanilla, but toward the end, include scenarios that they face in their life. Begin your session by having the entire group stand and tell them that you will read a scenario, then you will give them two options and they will have to choose one of the two options that you have given them. (You may want them to "choose" their option by standing on one side of the room or the other.) Read through your scenarios and allow the students to choose and give reasons for their choices. With all your scenarios presented, bring the group back together and facilitate a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) Which choice was hardest to make? Why?
- 2) Which choice was the easiest to make? Why?
- 3) Which scenario do you wish had more than one option? What would the other option be?
- 4) How does your prior experience determine the choices that you make now?
- 5) What role does your faith play in the choices that you make?

## Information

Transition to the next section of the session by reading 1 Samuel 2:12-26. Allow the students to ask any initial questions they have about the text. As you answer their questions, you may want to provide some of the information from THE BIBLE LESSON, printed in *Baptists Today*.

When the students have had an opportunity to share their initial thoughts, continue the discussion by facilitating a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) How would you describe the sons of Eli? What were some of the things that they did to make them so bad?
- 2) How would you describe Samuel? What did he do to make him so good?
- 3) Why do you think their stories are being told together when they don't have much in common?
- 4) How did Samuel go from knowing about God to knowing God in a personal way?
- 5) What caused Eli's sons and Samuel to choose the path that they did?

If your group would like to continue their discussion on this passage, share some of the insights provided in "Digging Deeper" and "The Hardest Question" (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide).

## Transformation

Conclude your session by showing the clip "Good Guys vs. Bad Guys" from *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*. If you are unable to show the clip, summarize it to the best of your ability and then facilitate a discussion by asking questions like the following:

- 1) How are you to determine the good guys from the bad guys? Why isn't it always that easy?
- 2) Do you know anyone that is all good or all bad? Can you name any biblical characters that are all good or all bad?
- 3) How do you determine the good versus the bad when it isn't clear cut?
- 4) How does your faith impact how you relate to people who aren't completely good or bad?
- 5) How do your choices determine if someone sees you as good or bad?

Close with a prayer of forgiveness asking God to forgive us for those time when we fall short in what we are to do and for the strength to continue to choose the right path that will build up the kingdom of God.