



International Bible Lessons

Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Ready-to-Teach Lesson: Return to the LORD with All Your Heart

1 Samuel 7:3-11, 15-17 (English Standard Version)

When Preparation Time Is Short

This lesson has been selected from the complete Teacher Lesson and is ready to use. Begin with the two warm-up questions, read or play 1 Samuel 7:3-11, 15-17, and continue through the activities in order. The writing task may be completed in class or assigned as homework. Teacher Awareness: This passage includes foreign gods, fasting, an animal sacrifice, and battle. Explain these terms simply and sensitively. Describe fasting without asking students to fast. Focus on returning to God, prayer, and faithful service.

1) Warm-Up Questions

1. What does it mean to do something with all your heart?
2. Why is it important to admit when we have done wrong?

2) Vocabulary

Word/Phrase	Meaning	Teacher Prompt
deliver	Rescue or save from danger.	Who would deliver Israel?
gather	Come together in one place.	Where did Samuel tell Israel to gather?
fasted	Went without food for a time.	What did Israel do at Mizpah?
thundered	Made a loud sound like thunder.	Who thundered against the Philistines?

3) Bible Text Comprehension

1. What did Samuel tell Israel to put away?
2. Where did Samuel tell all Israel to gather?
3. What did Israel ask Samuel to keep doing?
4. How did the LORD answer Samuel and defeat the Philistines?

4) Scripture Discussion

1. How did Israel show that they were returning to God?
2. How did confession and prayer express dependence on God?

5) Speaking Practice

1. Retell 1 Samuel 7:3-11, 15-17 in your own words.
2. Name the places Samuel visited and describe his work.

Language Coaching Tip

If a student gives a short answer, invite a complete sentence: 'Can you tell me more?' 'What happened next?' or 'Can you say that in a complete sentence?' Correct gently and model the sentence when needed.

6) Writing Task

Writing

Summarize 1 Samuel 7:3-11, 15-17 in 6-8 sentences. This may be completed during class or assigned as homework.

7) Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up

Israel put away foreign gods, served the LORD only, and confessed their sin at Mizpah. Samuel prayed, and the LORD answered by defeating the Philistines. Samuel continued to judge Israel and built an altar at Ramah. **Remember:** "Return to the LORD with all your heart, serve Him only, and depend on Him in prayer." **Final**

Question: How did Israel show a wholehearted return to the LORD?