



9

God Calls Samuel



Key Passages

- Judges 21:25; 1 Samuel 2:26, 3:3–6, 3:9–10

Lesson Focus

- God chose Samuel, and Samuel obeyed.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will color, cut, and assemble the Ruth and Boaz Puzzle as a review of the previous lesson and/or play with play dough. Provide envelopes for the children to put their puzzles in.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—Students will hear how God chose Samuel to be the last judge of Israel. Samuel obeyed, even at a young age.

Song—Students will praise God by marching, clapping, and singing the Memory Verse Song and the song, “God Calls You.” Lyrics to the songs can be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Activity 1: Samuel, Samuel!

Students will play a game similar to Duck, Duck, Goose.



Activity 2: Samuel Hears God! Role Play

Students will act out today's lesson with your help.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will review the memory verse using flash cards.



Applying God's Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- ☐ Study the Prepare to Share section.
- ☐ Go Before the Throne.

- ☐ Student Take Home Sheets



COME ON IN

- ☐ Print one Ruth and Boaz Puzzle from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. After children color the puzzles, cut them apart.
- ☐ Provide play dough if appropriate.

- ☐ One Ruth and Boaz Puzzle for each student
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Envelopes for the puzzles
- ☐ Play dough



CIRCLE TIME

- ☐ Print one each of the four Samuel Character Pictures from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use during the lesson.
- ☐ Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Lesson Flip Chart
- ☐ Four Samuel Character Pictures
- ☐ Stuffed animal for prayer time



SAMUEL, SAMUEL!

No preparation necessary.



SAMUEL HEARS GOD! ROLE PLAY

- ☐ Print one Samuel Hears God! Script from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use.
- ☐ Bring the supplies listed to the right.

- ☐ Samuel Hears God! Script
- ☐ Two blankets or “beds”—one for Samuel and one for Eli
- ☐ Optional: Costumes for Samuel and Eli—could include white belted robes



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- ☐ Print and cut out one set of the Memory Verse Flash Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- ☐ Color the flash cards (optional).

- ☐ One set of the Memory Verse Flash Cards



APPLYING GOD’S WORD/SNACK

- ☐ Prepare and bring snacks.

- ☐ Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Before you begin to prepare for your lesson this week, please prepare your heart and mind by reading 1 Samuel 1–4.

As the book of 1 Samuel opens, we meet Hannah, wife of Elkanah. She was in distress at being childless. During an annual visit to the Tabernacle in Shiloh, Hannah breathed a prayer to God, asking Him for a son. She vowed to the Lord that if He would grant her a son, he would be given to the Lord's service for his whole life, and no razor would touch his head. Her wordless prayer was mistaken by the high priest Eli for drunkenness, but after Hannah shared her grief and prayer with the priest, he blessed her, asking God to grant her request. The Lord did remember her, and she conceived. Her son was born, and she "called his name Samuel, saying, 'Because I have asked for him from the Lord'" (1 Samuel 1:20). Hannah cared for him in the family's home until he was weaned. Then she gave him into the care of Eli the priest, so that Samuel would be devoted to serving the Lord as a helper to the priest, just as Hannah had promised the Lord.

Eli seemed to be a devout man, but he was weak regarding his responsibilities. His sons were wicked, corrupt, immoral, and self-serving (1 Samuel 2:12–17, 2:22), and though Eli admonished them, he failed to restrain them (1 Samuel 3:13). God's judgment was pronounced not only on Eli's house, but was conveyed also to Israel (1 Samuel 2:27–36).

The entire period of the judges shows a cycle of behavior in Israel: wickedness and idolatry, judgment, cries for mercy, deliverance by God through the means of a judge or deliverer, and then a lapse back into wickedness, which started the cycle all over again.

Through these events, Samuel played an innocent, faithful part. God had chosen to reveal His plan of judgment to this young man under Eli's care. We read the account in 1 Samuel 3. Samuel was asleep and thought that he heard Eli call him. The priest had not called, and at the third visit from Samuel, Eli realized that the Lord was the one speaking. Eli instructed Samuel to be receptive and obedient: "you must say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears'" (1 Samuel 3:9). In this context Samuel was "hearing" with a will to obey. Samuel received the fearful news from the Lord that night, the news of God's plan to judge Eli's household (1 Samuel 3:11–12). The judgment foretold to Samuel would prove to be God's final judgment on Israel

during this dark era of history. God was preparing to raise up a king. Unfortunately, even under their kings, Israel continued to be unfaithful to God, and both Israel and Judah ended up in captivity.

Eli's response to the judgment intended for him and his family may seem noble at first: "It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good to Him" (1 Samuel 3:18). But at closer look, Eli's history of failing to manage his own household after repeated pronouncement of judgment gives indication that Eli was inappropriately passive—unmoved to act by the Lord's warning, just as he had been previously.

After the pronouncement of God's judgment, Israel went out to battle against the Philistines (chapter 4). Israel was defeated. The people responded by sending for the Ark of the Covenant to be brought to the battlefield (1 Samuel 4:3–4), apparently thinking that it would serve as a kind of spiritual force of protection and power.

The people believed that the Lord's power was necessary to defeat the Philistines. But this belief seems distorted when we consider the corruption in the Tabernacle, perpetrated by Eli's sons, and the continuing cycle of the nation's idolatry recorded in the book of Judges. Their intent in this instance was to use the Ark of the Covenant as assurance of victory through God's power. However, the living and true God will not be used; He will not allow even His covenant people victory if they attempt to use Him for their own ends, rather than serving and glorifying Him. God intends that His power and might—not the power and might of men—be revealed and praised.

The Philistines did, in fact, fear the outcome of the battle when the Ark was brought in. But they had no idea that God's judgment on His people was about to be executed. The Philistines won that battle and captured the Ark of the Covenant. Both of Eli's sons died in the battle, just as God had told Samuel (1 Samuel 4:9–11). And Eli, upon hearing that the Ark was taken, fell backward off his seat, broke his neck, and died (1 Samuel 4:18). This was indeed a dark time for Israel.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

There are many parallels between Samuel and Christ. Both were conceived by God's intervention, though only Jesus was conceived in a virgin by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:34–35). Both were to be instrumental in the deliverance of Israel, though the kinds

of deliverance were different (1 Samuel 7:3–13 and Matthew 1:21). Both were used by God to usher in a kingdom. Both arrived on the scene at a time in history when God’s dealing with Israel was to change dramatically. Both spoke God’s words; they were His prophets (Christ also being priest and king). And the song of Hannah bears remarkable resemblance to the song of Mary (1 Samuel 2:1–10; Luke 1:46–55).

There are other similarities in descriptions and phrases, such as both being described from childhood as growing in stature and in favor with God and men (1 Samuel 2:26 and Luke 2:52). Samuel is a type—a pattern, a living illustration—foreshadowing God’s unfolding plan to bring Jesus to save His people from their sins. By definition, types are necessarily incomplete, imperfect illustrations, but the similarities are still striking; and as we look back from our time, they show how God was graciously preparing Israel for the “fullness of time” in which the Messiah would come.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Dear Lord, I praise you for always being fair and just. I will trust you. May my actions be pleasing to you as I prepare and teach this lesson. Help me to be diligent and enthusiastic as I explain the truths in your Word. Prepare the hearts and minds of the students. Remove all obstacles and distractions that would make it difficult for parents to get to church and for students to concentrate. Reveal your truth to us again, and help us apply that truth faithfully in our lives.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color, cut and assemble the Ruth and Boaz Puzzle as a review and/or play with play dough. Provide envelopes so they can take the puzzles home.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class. Remember, children learn by repetition and review.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, four Samuel Character Pictures, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let's pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Supplication is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today we will ask God for something. That is a prayer of supplication, or a "please" prayer. God cares about us and has promised to provide us with all we need.

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

I'll start. Dear God, I know that you hear all my prayers and you will give me all I need according to your perfect will. Lord would you please . . .

(insert personal prayer).

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer asking God for something.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? **Who made you?** *God.*
- ? **What else did God make?** *All things.*
- ? **Why did God make you and all things?** *For His own glory.*
- ? **Can you see God?** *No, I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*
- ? **Where is God?** *God is everywhere.*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark the passage before you begin.

Bible Pass Around

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible.

Hold up your Bible. God's Word is true and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number (choose a number). You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity. We'll start right here. Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you. Remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it.

➤ As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart Page. When reading the lesson Scriptures, stand up, be enthusiastic, look at the children, and emphasize the answers to the questions you will be asking. This will help to keep the children engaged.

➤ Use a sticky note to mark the first passage to be read.

➤ When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

Continue lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around. Today we are going to talk about a man named Samuel. He lived during the time of the judges, many years before Jesus was born. Samuel was living at the same time as Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz. Remember them? We talked about them last week. Refer to the Lesson 8 Flip Chart Page. The people at this time were very sinful. They kept turning away from God. Refer to the Lesson 6 Flip Chart Page. They were worshipping false gods and not the one true God. The Bible tells us about the people back then.

Let's open the Bible to the book of Judges now! Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Here it is in my Bible. Show the students where the book is. Have the student sit back down. Listen as I read Judges 21:25. Read Judges 21:25.

Judges 21:25

? What was everyone doing? Judges 21:25. What was right in his own eyes.

That's right. The people forgot about God. Everyone was doing whatever they wanted. They were disobeying God. It was not a good time!

And that is where Samuel comes in. I'm going to turn to the book in the Bible called 1 Samuel. I'm going to read 1 Samuel 2:26. Show the students where the verse is.

? Who do you think the book of 1 Samuel talks about? Samuel. Bring out the Samuel Character Picture and lay it on the floor.

That's right. It tells us about who Samuel was and what he did. The first part tells us about Samuel's mother, Hannah. Bring out the Hannah Character Picture and lay it on the floor with Samuel. Samuel's mother, Hannah, loved the Lord very much. She wanted Samuel to worship and serve God. She wanted Samuel to love the Lord. So while Samuel was still young, she took him to the priest named Eli. Bring out the Eli Character Picture and lay it on the floor near Samuel. Samuel lived with Eli and learned all about the Lord. He grew up with Eli. His mother left him with the priest at the Tabernacle. Listen as I read this. It tells us about Samuel growing up. Read 1 Samuel 2:26.

Did you hear that? God was pleased with Samuel and the way he was growing and learning to be obedient. And men were pleased with him, too. He was doing a great job! We are going to see that God had very special plans for young Samuel. God wanted Samuel to listen and obey Him. Let's see what happened. Samuel was sleeping in bed one night and he heard something. Listen carefully and then you tell me what Samuel heard. Read 1 Samuel 3:3b-6 enthusiastically!

? Who was calling Samuel? 1 Samuel 3:4. The Lord.

? Who did Samuel think was calling him? 1 Samuel 3:5. Eli the priest.

Samuel just kept hearing someone call him, "Samuel! Samuel!" He kept going to Eli. Eli said "No! I didn't call you!"

➤ Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text. The children should hear God's Word and know that they can answer questions from it. It is not too hard for them!

1 Samuel 2:26

1 Samuel 3:3b-6

1 Samuel 3:9

? Hmmm, who was calling Samuel? *Allow for answers. 1 Samuel 3:6. The Lord!*

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart Page. That's right. It was the Lord calling Samuel. I wonder if Samuel was lying in his bed with his eyes closed, or if he had his eyes wide open, just waiting to see if he would hear his name called again. Well, he didn't have to wait long. He DID hear it again! For the third time! Samuel just didn't know it was the Lord! He ran back to Eli. And Eli knew then that it WAS the Lord calling Samuel. So Eli told Samuel what to do. Listen to what Eli told him. *Read 1 Samuel 3:9.*

? Where did Eli tell Samuel to go? *Go back to bed!*

? What did Eli tell Samuel to say if he heard the Lord again? *Re-read the verse.*
Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.

? Samuel went back to his bed and lay down once again. What do you think he heard? *Allow for answers. Let's see!*

1 Samuel 3:10

Remember, this is God's Word. It is ALL true. It really happened just like God says it did. Listen to what happened to Samuel. *Read 1 Samuel 3:10.*

? Who came and stood by Samuel? *The Lord.*

? What did the Lord call out? *"Samuel, Samuel!"*

? What did Samuel say this time? *"Speak, for Your servant hears."*

Well, the Lord did speak to Samuel. And God made Samuel the very last judge of Israel. God also made Samuel a prophet. *Bring out the Samuel Prophet Picture. Lay it on the floor with the other pictures.*

? What is a prophet? Does anyone know? *Allow discussion.*

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. A prophet is someone God used to speak for Him. God chose Samuel to be His prophet. And Samuel had to tell Eli the priest what God said. The people were sinning against God, and Samuel told Eli that God would have to punish them for their sin. This was hard for Samuel. Eli and the people didn't want to hear about their sin. But Samuel was obedient, and God used him to lead the people of Israel. God chose Samuel, and Samuel obeyed. Samuel was a prophet for God and warned the people about their sin.

? Now I want you to know that we don't have prophets like Samuel today. And God doesn't cry out our names like He did to Samuel. But we have something the people back then did NOT have. Who can think of what that is? *Hold up your Bible as a hint. The Bible!*

Yes, we have God's Word, the Bible. And God uses people in our lives to teach us from His Word.

? Who are some people that help you understand God's Word? *Mom and dad, teacher, pastor.*

- ? What should we do when these people are telling us truth about God's Word? It is the same thing Samuel did when he heard God's voice calling him in the night. *Listen and obey.*

That's right. We can learn a lot from other people. Samuel learned a lot from the priest, Eli. And Samuel was still just a boy when the Lord first called him. *Refer to the Samuel and Eli Pictures.* But Samuel listened to God and obeyed. None of us is too young to hear God! And none of us is too young to obey!

SONG

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. God wants us to hide His Word in our hearts. If we know His Word really well, it will be easier to obey! So let's practice our Memory Verse Song.

► Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse and Song Pages as you sing.

- ? Who remembers what our memory verse is? *Allow answers. 1 Samuel 16:7.*

Let's sing it together! *Sing together while clapping and marching in place.*

Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page. That was great! Now let's try a new song. It's called "God Calls You!" *Sing the song. You may want to add clapping or skipping in a circle. Lyrics to the songs can be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.*



Samuel, Samuel!

MATERIALS

- ☐ No materials needed

INSTRUCTIONS

This game is similar to "Duck, Duck, Goose!" Have students sit in a circle facing the center. The teacher will go around and gently tap the head of each student saying, "Samuel, Samuel. God called Samuel. Samuel, Samuel. God calls you!" At the word "you," the student who is tapped will jump up and run around the circle back to his place. Continue tapping and running until each student has had a turn to run. This version allows the teacher to be "it" and have more control over who is tapped. But it may also be played like the original game with students tapping and racing for the vacant space if appropriate.

Remember how the Lord kept calling Samuel, and he would get out of bed and run to Eli's room? Well, today we're going to play a game that reminds us of that. First,

everyone needs to sit in a circle. I am going to go around and tap each one of you on the head as we say, "Samuel, Samuel. God called Samuel. Samuel, Samuel. God calls YOU!" I want you all to say it with me, OK? If I tap your head when we say, "YOU" then you need to get up and run around the circle back to your place as fast as you can. Okay? Ready? *Play the game.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God called Samuel out loud and Samuel heard it. But God doesn't usually call to people like that anymore. He calls us through His Word. The Bible tells us all about God and how He wants us to love and obey Him. Listen to your moms, dads, teachers, pastors, brothers, and sisters as they tell you about God and the Bible.



Samuel Hears God! Role Play

MATERIALS

- ☐ A blanket (or towel) for Samuel
- ☐ A blanket (or towel) for Eli
- ☐ Samuel Hears God! Script from the Resource DVD-ROM
- ☐ Optional: Costumes that could include some type of white-belted robes

INSTRUCTION

Turn the lights off in the room since this happened at night. Assign three students to be Samuel, Eli, and the Lord. Use the Samuel Hears God! Script from the Resource DVD-ROM. Help the students recreate the account of the Lord calling to Samuel. Help them with their lines and what to do. Repeat as time allows. Try to include all of your

students as you repeat the role play. Or have all of them participate in saying the lines.

OK. We are going to have a play! I will help you. I need Samuel and Eli to lie down on the beds here. And I'll tell you what to do. I'll need someone to be the Lord and call Samuel in the middle of the night. *Act out the play.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God's Word is true! God chose Samuel to be a judge and a prophet. God called Samuel in the middle of the night. Samuel had to give some bad news to Eli, but Samuel obeyed God.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

1 Samuel 16:7b For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

Use the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Explain the verse to the children as you go over the verse together. Say the verse and point at each picture several times.

MATERIALS

- ☐ Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- ☐ Memory Verse Flash Cards

INSTRUCTIONS

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Pass the flash cards out to the students. Some may need to hold two cards if you have a small class. Review the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Repeat the verse with the students. Then ask the students to try and get in the right order using the Memory Verse Flash Cards. Repeat the verse together as each student holds up his card. Or you may want to have students stick their cards to the wall or set them up in order so the cards may be used to recite the verse.

We have some new flash cards to go with our memory verse! I'm going to pass out these cards. We will practice saying the verse first, and then you are going to get in the right order using your flash cards. Ready?

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

? "The Lord looks at the heart." What does that mean? *Allow for answers.*

Remember, we can't hide our heart from God. He knows what we are thinking, what we are doing, and how we are feeling all the time! The Bible tells us that God knows what we are going to think before we even think it! Isn't that amazing? And you know what else the Bible says? God wants us to put His Word in our heart! So when we practice the memory verses over and over, the words go way down into our hearts and we can remember them. *Ask the children if anyone wants to try and say it on their own.*



Applying God's Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review the lesson with the children while enjoying the snack for the day.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart Page. God chose Samuel! God called Samuel when he was only a boy. Samuel obeyed God, and God used him as he grew to be a man. Samuel was a prophet and judge for God. The Bible tells us all about God and teaches us what we must do to obey Him.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

We will not hear the Lord's voice calling to us like Samuel did. But we CAN hear God loud and clear. The Bible is God's Word. It is the only way we can learn about God's greatness, His power, His kindness, and His love for us—the love He showed through Jesus Christ! Samuel obeyed God. So did Jesus! And Jesus died on the Cross so that whoever would believe in Him could be forgiven of their sins and one day go to heaven! That's good news!

➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for His Word and the truth.
- Ask God to help us learn His Word and learn to obey His call.
- Pray that God will give us hearts that truly love Him.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

1 SAMUEL 16:7

(To the tune of "Are you sleeping?")

Shout: 1 Samuel 16:7!

For the Lord,

(Are you sleeping?)

For the Lord,

(Are you sleeping?)

Does not see—

(Brother John?)

As man sees!

(Brother John?)

Man looks at the outward—

(Morning bells are ringing.)

The ou-outward appearance.

(Morning bells are ringing.)

But the Lord—

(Ding, ding, dong,)

Looks at the heart!

(Ding, ding, dong.)

Shout: 1 Samuel 16:7!

GOD CALLS YOU!

(To the tune of "Skip, Skip, Skip to My Lou")

God calls you to obey.

(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

God calls you to obey.

(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

God calls you to obey.

(Skip, skip, skip to my Lou.)

Yes! I'll obey today, Lord!

(Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.)

Think of fun ways to sing. For example:

Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction.

Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out!

Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.