

1 Samuel 2:18-20 & 26 (NRSV)

¹⁸ But Samuel was ministering before the Lord—a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the Lord give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to^[a] the Lord.” Then they would go home.

²⁶ And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the Lord and with people.