

When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.

Program A-1

Hannah Prays To God

I Samuel 1:1-20

Samuel and Kings Series: Lesson #1

Bible Verse: God hears us when we pray. Psalm 34:17

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: The importance of prayer. God listens to us when we pray.

Prop ideas: Worship/offering items, picture of the Tabernacle

SAMPLE STORY

Hannah was very sad. She had no children. Her husband, Elkanah, loved her very much. He was sad, too. She would cry because she had no sons. Every year they would travel to Shiloh to worship the LORD God. They would go to worship, bring offerings and sacrifice. They would eat a meal of the meat that was sacrificed. But Hannah was so sad that she would not eat. Elkanah would try to cheer her up and get her to eat something. After one meal, Hannah got up wept bitterly and prayed. She made a vow (promise) to God. "If you will look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and give me a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

Eli, the High Priest, was watching Hannah. She continued to pray. Her lips were moving, but her voice could not be heard. Eli thought something was wrong because he could not understand why her lips were moving, but no sound was coming out. She was praying in her heart. She told Eli why she was praying; she wanted a son. Eli told her that God would give her what she asked for. Hannah felt so much better. She even had something to eat.

Just as Eli the priest had said, Hannah did have a baby boy. *She named him Samuel, which sounds like the Hebrew word for 'heard of God,' saying "Because I asked the LORD for him." I Sam. 1:20*

FYI

Second Session Classes will be:

Caring For Babies

Coloring "A Mother's Sacrifice" Story Booklet

Playing Jumping Game/Carpet Squares

HANNAH PRAYS COLOR/CUT/PASTE

Materials: Hannah Prays Coloring Pages
Baby Samuels Coloring Page
Bible Verse Stickers
Colors/markers (In room)
Scissors (In room)
Glue stick or tape (In room)

Do: While the children color the Hannah page, cut out the baby Samuels. Let any child who wants to cut out his own. Show them how to add baby Samuel to Hannah's arms after she prayed. Add a Bible verse sticker when finished.

Talk about: Hannah was sad because she had no children. She prayed to God for a son. She told the High Priest Eli that she was asking God for a baby boy. Eli told her that God would answer her prayers.

OFFERING

Materials: Offering envelopes (Or plain envelopes)
1 Quarter per child (*Do not give to them until they are ready to place in offering box or envelope*)

Option 1:
Do: If possible (depending on class size/temperament) **quietly** walk down to the doors of the Sanctuary. There is a table/box in front of the middle doors. (There are Worship Bulletins, envelopes, etc. on top). Give each child a quarter right before you help him place it in the slots on top. (If children brought their own offering money, let them place it in the offering box here). You will need to lift them up to do this. (Or borrow a step stool from the water fountain).

Option 2:
Do: If it is not feasible for your class to make the trip quietly to the offering box, then let them all place their quarters in an offering envelope, (one per class is fine). Let them know that you, or another Joyland worker will deliver the offering to the box after class. (If you want to make it something like "Big Church", you can pass around a basket or can or plate).

Talk about: We give our offering to God by giving money to the church. Samuel's mother and father would take an offering to the tabernacle every year. But they would take food for the priests. (Animal sacrifice and flour for bread). They could give money or valuable jewels as well to pay the priests for their work at the tabernacle.

The money we give to the church is used to pay our ministers for their work at church. It also pays for the building, the electricity, supplies and more.

What other things can we give to God? (Thanks, praise, serve/help others, encourage others).

BLOWING BUBBLES

Materials: Bubble solution and wands

Do: Have fun blowing bubbles

Talk about: Hannah was happy to have a baby boy. God heard her prayers. Ask simple questions about the Bible story. Blow bubbles after you hear the answer.

Have the children count how many bubbles they see/pop.

Feeling happy or sad.