

Hannah: Birth of Samuel

Lesson Objectives

- The students will describe the events surrounding Hannah's prayer.
- The students will state one way that God answered Hannah's prayer.
- The students will identify two things that they will pray for this week.

Lesson Text

1 Samuel 1-2:11

Scripture Memory Verse

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

1 John 5:14

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: P-R-A-Y-E-R

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Heart and Soul

Craft: Hannah-Rama

Scripture Memory: Whatever You Ask

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



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Hannah: Birth of Samuel

P-R-A-Y-E-R

The students will design their own acrostic about prayer.

Materials

For each student:

- 1 piece of construction paper, 9" x 12"
- pencil
- crayons or markers
- glue stick
- scissors

For the teacher:

- magazines
- dictionary
- Bible concordance

Preparation

Make an acrostic of your own to show the students as an example.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Explain that today's lesson is about a woman named Hannah whose prayers were answered by God. Tell them that they will think about what prayer means to them during this Preclass Activity. Show them your sample acrostic and read it to them.
2. Encourage the students to work with a partner. Distribute the construction paper and pencils. Have the students place their papers vertically and write the letters P-R-A-Y-E-R along the left side of the paper, as shown.

3. Distribute the crayons, markers, magazines, glue sticks and scissors. Tell the students to think of one word or phrase for each letter of the word "prayer" and write it next to the letter, as shown.
4. Tell the students to look for ideas of words in their Bibles, or in the magazines, dictionary, or concordance. As a variation, they can cut out words and pictures from the magazines and glue them onto their papers as well.
5. Have them write their names on their papers. Display them where students and parents can see them.

Teacher Tips

- Think of additional ways to inspire the students about prayer. Bring in books or tapes about prayer, such as: *Teach Us to Pray* from DPI's Daily Power Series, or *Be Still My Soul* by Sam Laing. Have music playing that sets a worshipful tone for the activity.
- Locate Christian or inspirational magazines for the students to cut up.

Pleases God
Reminds us of God's love
Anytime, anywhere
You and God
Every day
Really great!

Hannah: Birth of Samuel

Heart and Soul

The students will learn the events surrounding Hannah's prayer for a son as they participate in this activity.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 4 index cards, 4" x 6"
- 4 pieces of yarn, 34"
- black marker
- chair
- hole punch

Preparation

1. On each of the index cards, write one of the following: Hannah, Elkanah, Eli the Priest, Baby Samuel.
2. Punch holes in the two upper corners of each index card. For each card, tie the ends of one piece of yarn to each corner, forming a sign that the students can wear around their necks.
3. Practice presenting this story with emphasis and enthusiasm, making careful note of the directions to the students that are set off in parentheses.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel. Tell the students that today's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel 1-2. *In our Bible Story, we will learn about Samuel's mother Hannah, who prayed a great prayer of faith to God. You will learn all about what happened to Hannah before and after her prayer.* Show the students the four signs that you prepared and explain that these are the main characters in the Bible Story today. Tell them that they will take turns playing one of the characters.

Presenting the Bible Story

Choose four students and place a sign on each one. Have the other students sit in a circle. Tell the four students that you will direct them, as if in a play, as you tell the Bible Story.

There was a certain man whose name was Elkanah. (Elkanah stands up.) He had two wives, one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none. (Hannah stands up.)

Every year, Elkanah would take his wives to a place called Shiloh and worship God at the temple. (Elkanah and Hannah walk together around the group then back to where they started and sit down.) On one of these visits to the temple, Hannah was very sad because she had no children. She was very upset because Elkanah's other wife would often tease her because of this. (Hannah looks very sad.) Elkanah tried to comfort her by telling her how much he loved her. (Elkanah puts an arm around Hannah to comfort her.)

The Bible says in 1 Samuel 1:9-11: Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. (Hannah stands up.) Now Eli the priest was sitting on a chair by the doorpost of the LORD's temple. (Eli the Priest sits on a chair.) In bitterness of soul Hannah wept much and prayed to the LORD. And she made a vow, saying, "O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her 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." (Hannah pretends to be crying and praying.) Tell the students that Hannah promised to give her son to God if he would bless her.

As Hannah was praying, Eli looked at her. She was praying in her heart but he could not hear her voice. He only saw her lips moving. (Eli the Priest looks carefully at Hannah. Hannah moves her lips silently.) Eli the Priest thought that Hannah was drunk! He told her to stop drinking. (Eli the Priest tells Hannah to stop drinking.) But Hannah was not drunk. She was praying. She told Eli the Priest that she was very sad and that she was pouring out her soul to God. She asked him not to think of her as wicked, but to realize that she was feeling terrible sadness. (Hannah looks at Eli the Priest and says, "I'm not drunk! I'm pouring out my soul to God!") When Eli the Priest realized that she was not drunk, he told her to go in peace, and that he hoped God would bless her prayer. (Eli says, "Go in peace," to Hannah.)

The Bible says that God remembered Hannah and she had a baby boy. She named him Samuel which means "Because I asked the LORD for him." (Hannah smiles and pretends to hold a baby in her arms. Samuel crawls and sits next to her.)

When Samuel was old enough, Hannah took him to the temple where she had

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prayed for a baby. She gave her child to Eli the priest and told him that she was keeping her promise to God. In the temple, her son Samuel would serve the Lord all his life. (Hannah holds Samuel's hand and walks around the circle. She gives Samuel's hand to Eli the priest and says, "Take care of him so he can serve the Lord.") After Hannah had presented Samuel to the Lord, she prayed another prayer to God. This time it was a prayer of praise and thanksgiving because she was so happy to have a son.

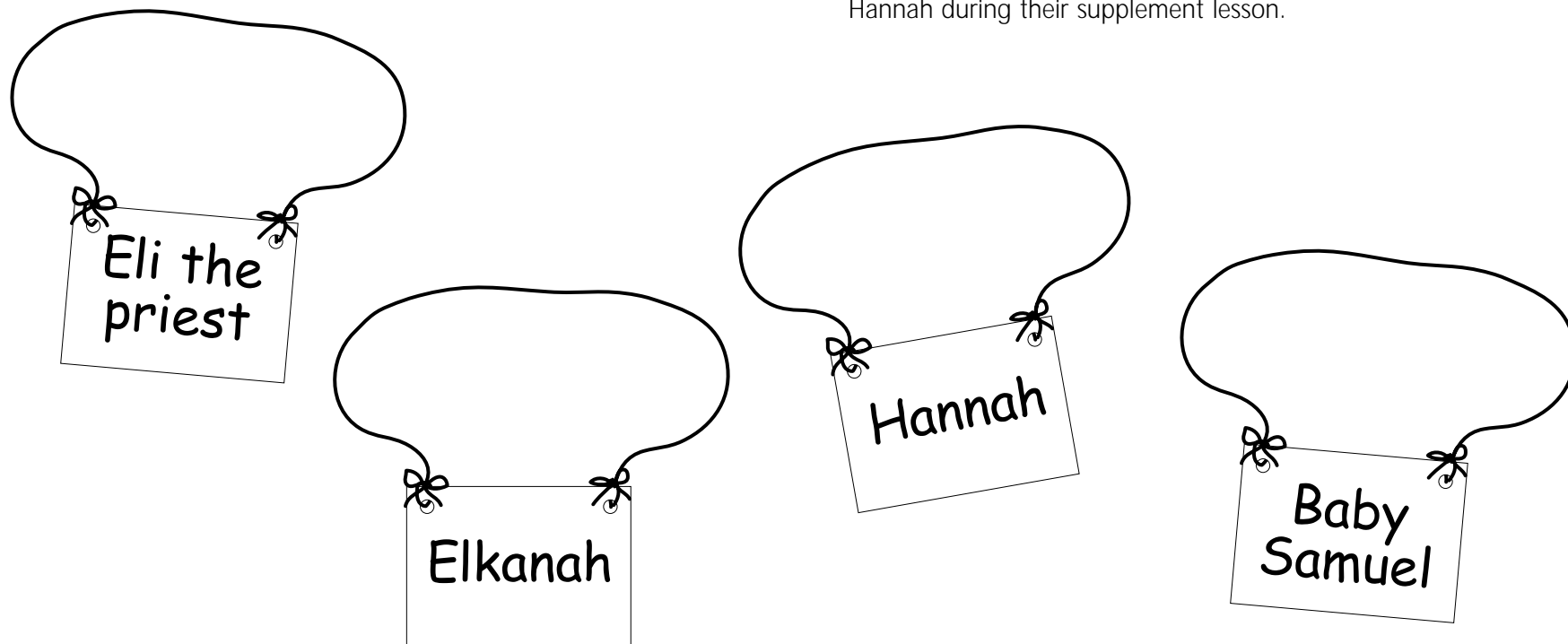
If time permits, choose four more students to role play an abbreviated version of this story.

Sharing with Others

Ask the students if they have ever wanted something so badly that it was all they could think about. Tell them that is how Hannah felt when she prayed. Ask the students if they have ever begged their parents for something and made promises if they would get it. Tell them that this is what Hannah did. God answered her prayer and Hannah kept her promise. Tell the students to think of someone that they can share the story of Hannah with this week. Close with a prayer for the students to trust God the way Hannah did.

Teacher Tips

- Mention to the students that they will have a quiz on the story of Hannah during their supplement lesson.



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Hannah: Birth of Samuel

Hannah-Rama

The students will make a display of important ideas from today's Bible Story about Hannah.

Materials

For each student:

- 1 piece of black construction paper, 9" x 12"
- pencil
- crayons or markers
- scissors
- glue stick

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

NOTE: For added appeal, reproduce Page A on brightly colored or neon paper.

Preparation

1. For each student, make a nine inch paper square by folding one corner of the paper across to align with the opposite side. Then cut off the excess, as shown in Figure A.
2. Make a sample craft to show the students.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In this week's Bible Story, you learn about Hannah, a woman who prayed to God with all her heart and soul. Hannah prayed to God for a child and God answered her prayers. Hannah gives us a great example of prayer.*
2. Show the students the craft that you made. Explain that each side displays one important idea from this week's lesson.
3. Distribute the construction paper square to the students. Have them fold their square along the opposite diagonal, as shown in Figure B. They should now have four triangles formed by the fold lines on their squares, as shown in Figure C.

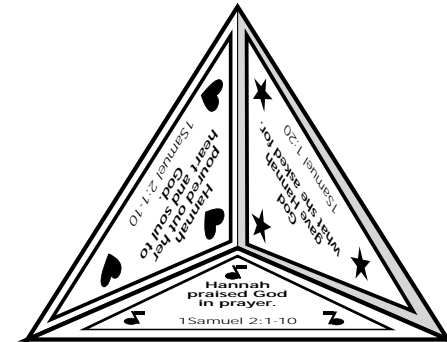
4. Distribute the scissors. Have the students cut along one of the fold lines from the corner to the center, as shown in Figure D.
5. Show the students how to fold one of the triangles under the other triangle and glue them, forming a standing display, as shown in Figures E and F.
6. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A. Have the students cut out the three figures and glue them to each of the three sides of the display, as shown in Figure G.
7. Make sure the students write their names on their crafts.

Conclusion

Ask each student to read one of the statements from their crafts. Ask the students to describe Hannah's faith. (strong, powerful) Encourage the students to pray with faith like Hannah this week. Close with a prayer thanking God for listening to our prayers.

Teacher Tips

- Have extra paper squares available for students who make mistakes folding or cutting.



Hannah: Birth of Samuel

Whatever You Ask

The students will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse through a fun activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

1 John 5:14

Materials

For each student:

- 3 index cards, 3" x 5"

For the teacher:

- glue stick
- scissors
- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each student

NOTE: To create a long-lasting set of cards, reproduce Page B onto colored card stock and laminate or cover in clear contact paper. This eliminates the need for the index cards and glue sticks.

Preparation

1. For each student, cut the three index cards in half, forming six smaller cards (2½" x 3").
2. For each student, cut out the face cards from the copies of Reproducible Page B and glue them to the index cards. You should have one set of six cards for each student in the group.
3. Prepare a deck of cards by combining all of the cards for all of the students and shuffling them.
4. On the large writing surface, write the Scripture Memory Verse as it appears on the back of this Lesson Card.
5. Practice playing this game at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In this week's Bible Story, you are learning about Hannah, a woman who poured out her heart and soul to God. Hannah desperately wanted for God to give her a child. In her prayer, Hannah promised God that if he gave her a child, she would make sure that he grew up serving God.*

The Bible says that if we pray to God about things that please him, he hears us.

2. Tell the students to look at the Scripture Memory Verse on the large writing surface. Read it to the students three times while they follow along silently. Ask them to read it with you three more times. Ask them to stand up and say the verse two times. Ask them to sit down and say the verse two times. Ask them to get on their knees and say the verse two times. Ask each student to say the verse together with you. Ask each student to say the verse individually.
3. Tell the students that God wants us to have confidence. That means he wants us to be totally sure that he hears our prayers. Explain that today's activity will give the students a chance to say the Scripture Memory Verse with confidence.
4. Seat the students in a circle. Show the students the deck of cards that you prepared. Explain that you will give each student six cards, and the object of the game is to trade with each other to get the six cards that make the Scripture Memory Verse.
5. Play the first hand as an open hand. Give six cards to each student and have them place them down in front of them in the order of the memory verse, using the verse on the large writing surface to help them.
6. Once all of the cards are placed down in front of them, have the students pick up all the cards that they need to trade. For example: Any cards they have more than one of, they should trade.
7. Give the students an opportunity to trade cards with each other until each student has collected all of the cards to complete the Scripture Memory Verse.
8. The first student to collect all six cards may be the first to begin by saying the memory verse to the rest of the group. Then each student takes a turn saying it. Before they begin, remind them to say the verse with confidence—in a loud, clear voice, with their chin up and with enthusiasm.
9. Collect and shuffle the cards. Play the next round with the students holding their cards so that the others cannot see them. Repeat in the same way as before, with the first student to collect all six cards being the first to say the verse, followed by the others.



3rd and 4th Grades

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10. Play as many rounds as time permits.

Conclusion

Ask the students to think of examples of prayers that are “according to God’s will.” (Answers should include: to help people; to teach people about God; to have great friends; to have a happy family; to be a great student; to become a disciple; to marry a disciple; to become a preacher or a missionary, etc.) Ask them how it makes them feel to know that God will hear all of these prayers. Close with a prayer thanking God for his love and faithfulness.

Teacher Tips

- Think about prayers that God has answered for you. Let the students see your faith in God’s love and faithfulness.

This is the confidence
we have in approaching
God: that if we ask
anything according to
his will, he hears us.

1 John 5:14

Lesson Objectives

- The students will describe the events surrounding Hannah's prayer.
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Lesson Text

1 Samuel 1-2:11

Scripture Memory Verse

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1 John 5:14

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Pop Quiz!

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Poured Out

Game: Who Am I?

Bible Skills: Bible Book Report

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

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Pop Quiz!

The students will review this week's Bible Story as they complete this activity.

Materials

For each student:

- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

Complete the questions on your copy of Reproducible Page C before class.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Explain that they are going to test their knowledge of this week's Bible Story with a "pop quiz." Tell them that they may use their Bibles and that the Bible Story is located in 1 Samuel 1-2.

2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page C and pencils. Make sure that the students write their names on their pages.
3. Have the students who did not hear the Bible Story complete the activity as a worksheet with a partner.
4. Circulate among the students to offer help.
5. When the students finish, have them find a partner and correct each other's papers. The students should check their final answers with your Answer Key.

Answer Key

- 1.(b) 2.(c) 3.(a) 4.(b) 5.(a)
6.(b) 7.(c) 8.(a) 9.(a) 10.(b)

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. (1 John 5:14)

Teacher Tips

- Some students may "complain" about having a quiz. Ask them to think about the attitude that God wants them to have about learning his Word. Ask them what they think Jesus' attitude would be toward a Bible Class quiz.
- For extra encouragement, provide special stickers to give the students for completing the quiz.

Poured Out

The students will review this week's Bible Story and have time to pray with faith about something important to them.

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, make a three column chart with the titles: NAME; SAD; HAPPY. Underneath these titles, write this example: HANNAH; NO BABY; and SAMUEL.
2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page D.
3. Pray that the students will be moved by today's lesson.

Reviewing the Bible Story

In this week's Bible Story, we learned about a woman named Hannah. Hannah's husband Elkanah loved her very much! Hannah was sad because she had no children. She wanted a child more than anything else. Listen to what happened to Hannah as I read 1 Samuel 1:9-16. Read the entire passage from your Bible with feeling.

Hannah was praying so intensely that the priest thought she was drunk! But God knew that she was not drunk. Sometimes other people around us may not understand why we are praying, but God knows!

God heard Hannah's prayer and gave her a son. She named him Samuel, which means: "Because I asked the LORD for him." After Samuel was ready to leave his mother, Hannah presented him to the Lord so that he could serve God for his whole life. Then Hannah prayed to God again. This time, she praised God because she was so happy that God had blessed her with a son. God had answered her prayer!

Life Application

Tell the students to look at the chart you prepared and the example of Hannah. Write in your name under Hannah, and something that makes you sad followed by something that makes you happy. Ask each student their answers and write them on the chart.

Ask the students what they think it means to "pour out your heart" to God. Ask the students if they have ever begged their parents to buy them something or to take them somewhere. Explain that when we pour out our hearts to God it is like telling God everything you are thinking and then begging him to help you.

Tell the students that they will each have a turn to pray to God about something that makes them sad. Have the students go around the circle, starting with you. Model for the students a genuine pouring out of your heart about something in your life.

NOTE: Make sure the subject of your prayer is appropriate for the students in your group. Have the students follow. Do not force a student to pray.

Go around the circle again and praise God for the thing that makes you happy, having the students follow in the same way.

Prayer Plans

Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page D. Ask the students to take this home and use it this week to help them pour out their hearts in prayer this week. Remind the students that because of Jesus, they can pray to God and have faith that he will hear them, just as this week's Scripture Memory Verse teaches. Encourage them to pray with a parent or older brother or sister who is a disciple.

Teacher Tips

- If time does not permit all the students to pray, ask for volunteers or pray for each student by name yourself.



Who Am I?

The students will review this week's Bible Story as they play this guessing game.

Materials

For each student:

- 1 self-sticking name tag
- pencil

For the teacher:

- black marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each student



Preparation

1. Label the name tags so that there are two of each of the following: Hannah, Elkanah, Eli, Samuel. For groups of more than eight students, make three or more of each.
2. Practice playing this game at home.



Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In the Bible Story this week, you learned about a woman named Hannah. Hannah prayed to God with all her heart and God heard her prayer. The Bible says that Hannah poured out her soul to God! God teaches us some very important lessons in this Bible Story. In our activity today, we are going to review some of the people and events from the Bible Story.*
2. Tell the students that you have written out name tags for each of them. On the name tag will be the name of one important person in this week's Bible Story. They may not see their name tag before you put it on their back. After you place the tags on their backs, they must go around to each other and ask questions about their name to try and guess who they are.



3. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page E and the pencils. Tell the students to ask the questions on their pages to help them learn what names they have been given.
4. Once the students have guessed their name, they must go and find the other student who has the matching name tag. Together, the two students will prepare to tell the group one important thing about their Bible Story person. For example: both students with the tag "Eli" may state: "Our person is Eli the priest. Eli thought that Hannah was drunk. He did not understand that she was praying. Sometimes people will not understand why we pray, but God knows."

Conclusion

Ask the students to each share their favorite person in this Bible Story and why. Close with a prayer thanking God for the great example of Hannah's prayer.

Teacher Tips

- Encourage new or visiting students to play as well or to be a partner with another student who is familiar with the Bible Story.



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Who Am I?

- Am I a man or a woman?
- Am I young or old?
- Am I married?
- Did I go to the temple to worship God?
- Was I a priest?
- Did I pray to God?
- Did I love my wife?
- Did my mother promise God that I would serve the Lord all my life?
- Is a book of the Bible named after me?

Bible Book Report

The students will write a short summary of the Bible Story in a "Book Report" activity.

Materials

For each student:

- pencil
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 2 copies for each student

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page F before class.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In this week's Bible Story, you learned about Hannah. She was a woman who prayed to God with all her heart. God answered her prayer and she had a son named Samuel. Hannah thanked and praised God in prayer after her son was born. Hannah gives us a great example of how to pray to God. Today, you are going to write a Bible Book Report about Hannah and her son Samuel.*
2. Distribute one set of the copies of Reproducible Page F and pencils. Tell the students that they will do the first part together, and then the main report alone or with a partner.

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3. Ask the students to take out their Bibles. Encourage them to work together and help each other. Using the sample on the back of this Lesson Card, tell the students:
 - *This week's Bible Story is from the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel. Write this on the large writing surface for students to copy onto their pages.*
 - *It is from chapters 1 and 2. Write this on the large writing surface for the students to copy onto their pages.*
4. Ask the students:
 - *Who are the main people in this Bible Story?* (Hannah; her husband Elkanah; Eli the priest; and Samuel) Write these on the large writing surface for the students to copy.
 - *What is the main idea in this Bible Story?* (Hannah prayed to God with all her heart and God answered her prayer.) Write this on the large writing surface for the students to copy.
5. Tell the students to complete the last two sections by themselves. Circulate among the students to offer help with spelling.

Conclusion

Ask the students to go around and read what they wrote for the last two sections. Encourage all the students for their work. Distribute the second set of copies of Reproducible Page F and tell the students to take this home and use it for another Bible Story of their choice. Close with a prayer thanking God for giving us such great and true stories in the Bible!

Teacher Tips

- Take special note of new or visiting students who may be unfamiliar with this week's lesson and need extra help completing this activity.

Bible Book Report

Book of the Bible: 1 Samuel

Chapter and verse: chapters 1 and 2

The main people in this story are:

Hannah, Elkanah,

Eli the priest, baby Samuel

The main idea in this story is:

Hannah prayed to God with all her

heart and God answered her prayer.

My favorite part of this story is:

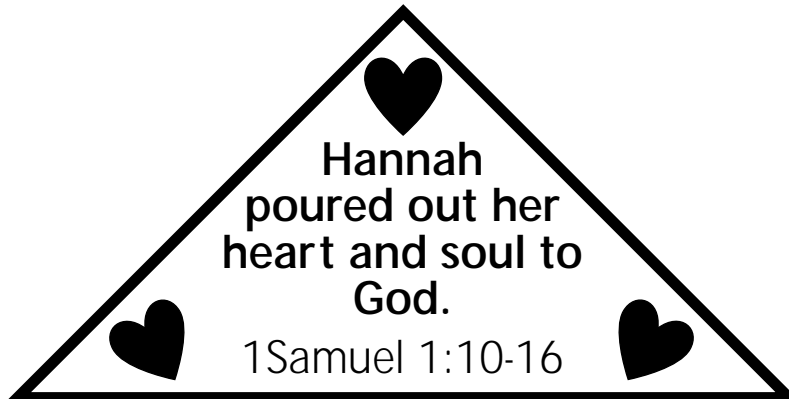
when Hannah poured out her soul to God.

One thing I learned from this story is:

God hears my prayers.

Core/Craft

1 copy for each student (Optional - neon paper)



Core/Scripture Memory

1 copy for each student (Optional - heavy paper)

This is the
confidence

we have in
approaching
God:

1 John 5:14

that if we
ask anything

according to
his will,

he
hears us.

Pop Quiz!

1. This week's Bible Story is about _____.
a) Harold
b) Hannah
c) Hezekiah
2. The story is located in the Old Testament book _____.
a) 1 Sandbars
b) 1 Samantha
c) 1 Samuel
3. The name of Hannah's husband was _____.
(1 Samuel 1:1)
a) Elkanah
b) Elephant
c) Eliphaz
4. Hannah prayed to the Lord because she _____.
(1 Samuel 1:11)
a) was bored
b) wanted a son
c) was drunk
5. Eli the priest saw Hannah in the temple. He thought she was _____. (1 Samuel 1:13-14)
a) drunk
b) asleep
c) singing
6. Hannah told the priest that she was not drinking. She was _____. (1 Samuel 1:15)
a) reading
b) pouring out her soul to the Lord
c) writing a letter
7. God answered Hannah's prayer and she had a _____.
(1 Samuel 1:20)
a) party
b) vacation
c) son
8. Hannah named the baby Samuel, which means _____.
(1 Samuel 1:20)
a) "Because I asked the Lord for him."
b) "Because I like the sound of that name."
c) "Because I cried."
9. Hannah promised God that she would _____.
(1 Samuel 1:28)
a) give her son to the Lord
b) give her son his allowance
c) give her son a new camel
10. After Hannah presented Samuel to the Lord, she _____. (1 Samuel 2:1-10)
a) took a nap
b) praised God in prayer
c) read a book

Write out this week's Scripture Memory Verse and reference:



**Poured Out
Prayer Plans**

Hannah was very sad because she had no children. She prayed to God with all her heart to have a son. God heard her prayer and she had a baby boy. Hannah promised God that her son would serve the Lord all of his life. Hannah was so happy that she praised God in prayer and thanked him for her son.

Using the chart, follow the guidelines below to help you pray to God. Ask a disciple to pray with you.

**Things that
make me sad:** ☹️

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

**Things that
make me happy:** 😊

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Prayer for Help

Dear God,
I know that Hannah was very sad because she did not have a son. I feel sad because _____.
If you will help me, I promise that I will _____.
God, I believe that you will hear this prayer.
I know that I can pray to you because of Jesus.
Amen.

Prayer of Thanks

Dear God,
Hannah was so happy to have a son! She prayed again to praise you and thank you! I want to thank you for _____. You must love me so much! I always want to remember how you _____. I promise that I will tell my family and friends what you did for me! I love you!
I know that I can pray to you because of Jesus.
Amen.

Who Am I?

- Am I a man or a woman?
- Am I young or old?
- Am I married?
- Did I go to the temple to worship God?
- Was I a priest?
- Did I pray to God?
- Did I love my wife?
- Did my mother promise God that I would serve the Lord all my life?
- Is a book of the Bible named after me?

Bible Book Report

Book of the Bible: _____

Chapter and verse: _____

The main people in this story are:

The main idea in this story is:

My favorite part of this story is:

One thing I learned from this story is:

