

Hannah Talks to God

Prayer
Lesson 1

Lesson Objectives

- The children will understand that praying is how we talk to God.
- The children will learn that Hannah prayed for a baby and God answered her prayers.
- The children will pray.

Bible Story Text

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Bible Truth

Pray all the time.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Talking to God

Life Application: God Helps Me

Craft: Hannah Story Strips

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Hannah Talks to God

Preclass Centers

In the preclass centers children will use language, motor, and cognitive skills, learn to interact with peers and cooperate in small groups.

Select four centers to use this unit. Assign a teacher to set up and supervise each center with no more than six children.

Materials

IMPORTANT: Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.

- Housekeeping Center—2 washable dolls (of diverse ethnicity, e.g., black and white), play food, dishes and 2 small blankets
- Story Center—simple books with limited text (cardboard are the most sturdy and durable) and large pillows
- Block Center—set of large blocks, people, animal figures (plastic or wooden) and toy cars
- Puzzle Center—1 puzzle for each child (for twos each puzzle piece itself should be a complete familiar object, for threes most can complete a 20-piece puzzle). **NOTE:** A puzzle should have all the pieces. If a puzzle piece is lost, the entire puzzle should be thrown out.

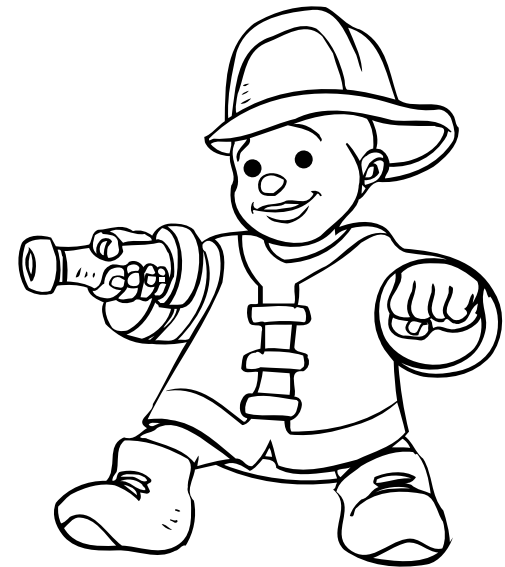
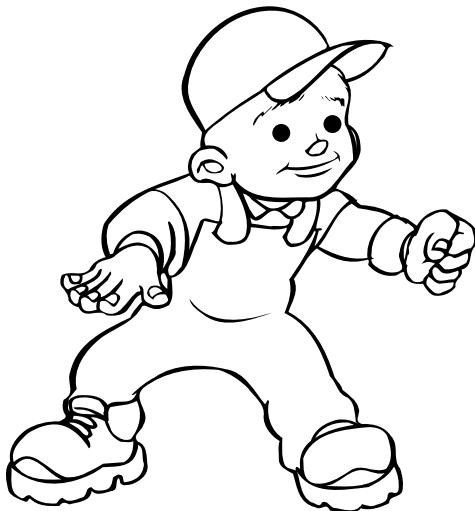
Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme. Refer to the following example for help in directing play and asking relevant questions.

In the Housekeeping Center play with the dolls as if they are baby Samuel. Explain to the children that Hannah was Samuel's mom. Hannah prayed to God for a baby and God gave her Samuel. Talk with the children about prayer. Explain that God loves it when we pray.

Teacher Tips

- You may want to try other centers such as transportation, large motor or manipulative.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.



Hannah Talks to God

Talking to God

This lesson will help the children to understand that praying is talking to God.

Bible Story Text

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- scissors
- markers or crayons
- felt board
- tape
- baby doll
- baby blanket
- clear contact paper or laminate (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out and color the three Hannah pictures from Reproducible Page A.
2. Roll three pieces of tape and put one on the back of each picture.
3. Place the three pictures of Hannah out of order on the bottom of the felt board.

We Can Talk to God

Have the children sit on the floor in front of the felt board where they can see easily. *Have you ever prayed before? Who do you talk to when you pray? Yes, you talk to God. Have you ever prayed a lot for something you wanted? What did you pray for?*

Open the Bible. *Today we are going to read a story from the Bible about a woman named Hannah. Can you say Hannah? Guess what she wanted very badly? Take the children's responses. Hannah wanted a baby!*

How do you think Hannah would look if she wanted a baby very badly and didn't have one? She would probably look very sad! Can anyone point to the picture of Hannah looking sad because she did not have a baby? That's right! Have a child place picture #1 on the top of the felt board.

Now, if you were very sad, what would you do? Take the children's responses. Did you know that God wants you to talk to him when you are sad? He wants you to talk to him when you are happy, too. Just like your Mommy and Daddy want to help you feel better, God wants to help you feel better, too.

What do you think Hannah should do if she is sad and wants a baby? Yes, she should talk to God and tell him how sad she is. She should pray. In the Bible it says that Hannah did pray. She prayed very hard to God (1 Samuel 1:15). Who can point to the picture of Hannah praying? Have a child move picture #2 beside picture #1 on the felt board.

God is always listening to us! He listened to Hannah when she was praying, and guess what happened? God answered Hannah's prayer. He gave her a baby! (1 Samuel 1:19-20). Ask if someone would like to put picture #3 with the others. Here's the last picture that shows Hannah loving her new little baby. His name is Samuel. Can you say that?

Let's go over the story again: Point to picture #1. Here is Hannah, she is sad because she wants a little baby. Point to picture #2. Here is Hannah talking to God about how she feels. Point to picture #3. Here is Hannah loving her new baby that God has given her! How do you think Hannah feels now? Yes, very happy. Do you think she will say thank you to God?

Look, I have a surprise for you. Pull out the baby doll with the blanket wrapped around it. Cuddle the doll like a baby. Let's pretend this is the baby that God gave Hannah! Let's pass the baby around, and then hug the baby. Pass the doll around and let the children hug it.

NOTE: Save the pictures for the Unit 14 Lesson 2, Bible Story.

Hannah Talks to God

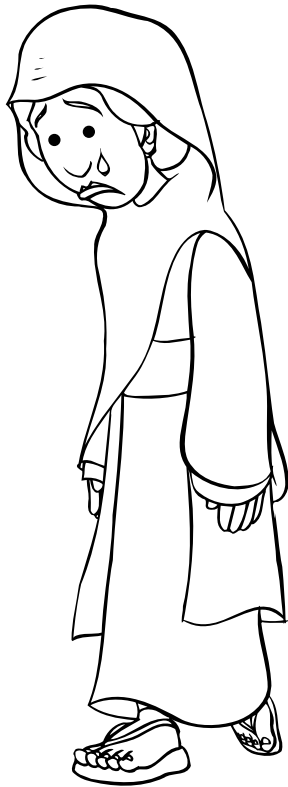
Conclusion

When Hannah talked to God what did she ask for? Yes, a baby. So if we want to let God know about something we need or how we are feeling, what should we do? Yes, we should pray and talk to God.

If there is time, take the pictures off the felt board. Give three children each a picture and help them to place the pictures in order on the felt board. Repeat until all of the children have had a turn. For older threes, allow them to hold all of the pictures, and then put them in order on the felt board.

Teacher Tips

Cover the pictures with clear contact paper or laminate to make them last longer.



Hannah Talks to God

God Helps Me

This activity will help the children to understand that when we need something we can pray to God who always hears our prayers.

Bible Truth

Pray all the time.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- scissors
- markers
- 3 pieces of construction paper
- glue stick
- clear contact paper or laminate (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Glue each copy of the Reproducible Pages onto a piece of construction paper.
2. Color and cut out each picture.

Instructions

Open the Bible. *The Bible says: "Pray all the time." Who do we talk to when we pray? That's right! When we pray, we talk to God. What do we say to God? We tell him, "thank you," for giving us everything we need. We also tell him how we are feeling.*

Hold up picture #1 of Hannah looking sad. *Let's look at this picture. Can anyone tell me who is in this picture? This is Hannah. Can you say, "Hannah"? What is wrong with Hannah? She is sad. Can anyone tell me why she is sad? She is sad because she wants a little baby, and she does not have one. What should Hannah do?*

Hold up picture #2 of Hannah praying. *Hannah is praying to God. That is what she needs to do. She needs to pray to God, and ask God, "Please give me a baby." And that is what Hannah did! She prayed to God for a baby. And guess what?*

Hold up picture #3 of Hannah with her baby. *God gave Hannah*

a baby. Does anyone know what her baby's name is? His name is Samuel. God loved Hannah, and he answered her prayers and gave her a baby. God hears us when we pray, and he answers our prayers because he loves us, too!

Hold up picture #4. *Why is this little girl crying? She is crying because she does not want to go to bed. Do you ever cry because you do not want to go to bed? What do you think she needs to do?*

Hold up picture #5. *She is praying to God. She is asking God to please help her to obey her mommy and to go to sleep. Do you think God will help her to go to sleep? Let's see.*

Hold up picture #6. *Look, she has gone to sleep. She prayed to God, and she stopped crying and went to sleep. She obeyed her mommy and stayed in her bed. Her mommy will be happy, and the little girl will be happy when she wakes up. God helped her to go to sleep!*

Hold up picture #7. *What are these boys doing? They are fighting over a toy. They are not sharing. Their mommy told them to share the toy, but they do not want to share it. What do they need to do? They need to pray to God to help them share.*

Hold up picture #8. *What are they doing? They are praying. They are talking to God and asking him to please help them to share the toy, and to help them be good brothers and not to fight any more. What do you think will happen?*

Hold up picture #9. *The boys are sharing! They are happy, and they are not fighting. Who helped them to share? Yes, God did! God helps us when we pray.*

Sing "It's Time To Pray" from the Unit 14 Song Sheet. Show the different pictures as you sing.

If time allows, play a sequencing game with the pictures:

- Lay out the first picture of each set on the floor face up.
- Mix up the other pictures and lay them on the floor face down.
- Let each child pick a picture and hold it.
- Who has the picture of Hannah praying? Have that child place the picture next to the first one.
- Who has the picture of Hannah holding baby Samuel? Have that child place the picture next to the second one.
- Continue this with the other two sets of pictures until all the cards are in order.

NOTE: Save the pictures for the Unit 14 Lesson 2, Life Application.

Hannah Talks to God

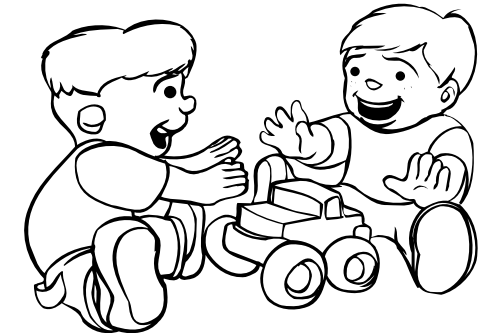
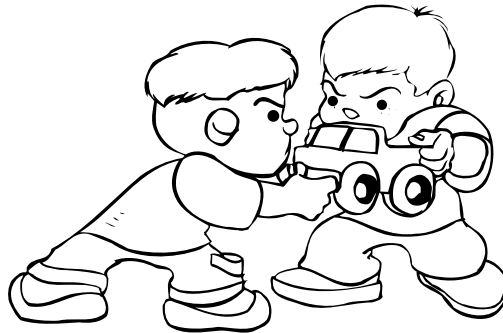
Bible Truth Activity

Hold up your Bible. *The Bible says: "Pray all the time." Let's all say that together: "Pray all the time."*

Conclusion

Let's thank God for listening and helping us when we pray. Dear God, thank you so much for listening to us when we pray to you. Thank you for helping us when we pray. Please help us to talk to you all the time about what we are feeling, when we are sad, happy, or angry. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Who are you going to tell about Bible class today? What are you going to tell them? You can help your friends if they are not sharing or are angry by telling them to pray to God.



Hannah Talks to God

Hannah Story Strips

This craft will allow the children to "tell" the story of Hannah and her baby.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper
- crayons
- glue stick
- 10" x 4" strip of poster board

For the teacher:

- scissors
- utility knife
- white glue (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child
- Page E, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut a 10" x 4" strip of poster board for each child.
2. Cut out the boxes with the pictures of Hannah from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
3. Using a utility knife, cut out the ovals in the faces and midsection of the Hannah pictures.
4. Cut out the boxes with the pictures of the hands and faces from Reproducible Page E.
5. Glue the boxes to the poster board strips leaving 1½" on both ends. See Figure A.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft and talk with them about how God heard Hannah's prayer and answered it. Tell them that Hannah prayed for a baby. Ask the children what they ask God for when they pray.
2. Have the children prepare the Hannah pictures as follows:
 - A. Give each child a Hannah picture to color.
 - B. Have the children turn over their pictures when they are finished coloring.
 - C. Give each child a glue stick and then have them place glue on the backs of their pictures as shown in Figure B. NOTE: Be sure that no glue is between the two ovals.
 - D. Give each child a piece of construction paper, and have them glue their pictures to the construction paper.
3. Give each child a poster board strip with the pictures glued to it. Have the children color in the pictures on the strips.
4. Help each child to position their poster board strip underneath their pictures of Hannah. See Figure C.
5. Write the children's names on their crafts.

Conclusion

Demonstrate to the children how the story strip slides back and forth telling how Hannah prayed to God, and then how God answered her prayer. Talk about how the baby was God's answer to Hannah's prayer. Let the children tell the story themselves using the story strips.

Teacher Tips

Using white glue and applying it to the children's papers yourself may free you up to spend more time focusing on using the story strips.



craft

Hannah Talks to God

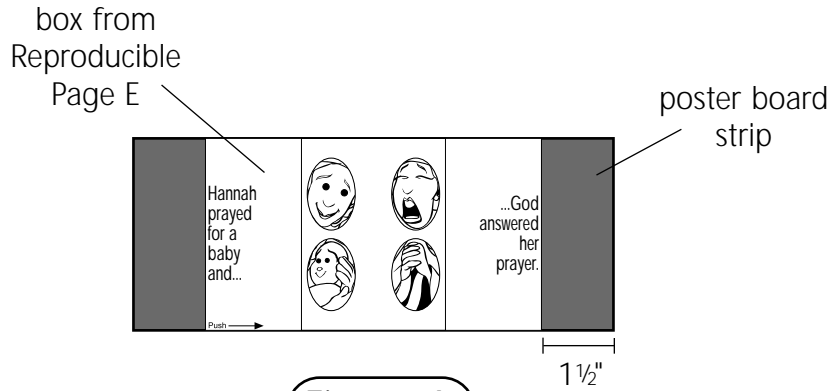


Figure A

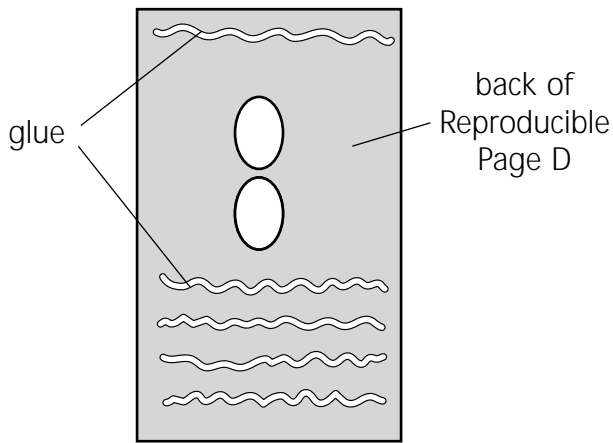


Figure B

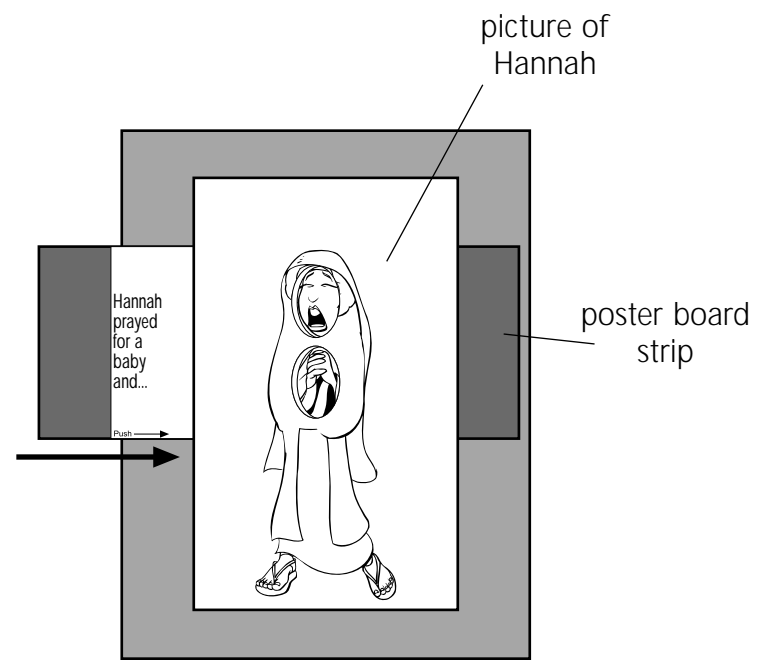


Figure C



Hannah Talks to God

Prayer

Lesson 1

Lesson at a Glance supplement

2 and 3 Year Olds



Pre class

activity

Lesson Objectives

- The children will understand that praying is how we talk to God.
- The children will learn how Hannah prayed for a baby and God answered her prayers.
- The children will pray.

Bible Story Text

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Bible Truth

Pray all the time.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Preclass Centers

In the preclass centers children will use language, motor, and cognitive skills, learn to interact with peers and cooperate in small groups.

Select four centers to use this unit. Assign a teacher to set up and supervise each center with no more than six children.

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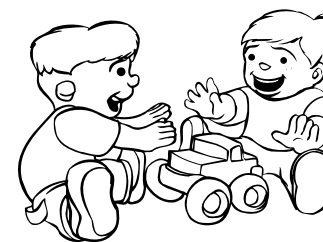
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Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme. Refer to the following example for help in directing play and asking relevant questions.

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Teacher Tips

- You may want to try other centers such as transportation, large motor or manipulative.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.



Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: When I Grow Up

Bible Story: Talking to God

Craft: Everybody Can Pray

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack

Life

Application

When I Grow Up

This activity will help the children to realize that as they grow up, they will always be able to talk to God.

Bible Truth

Pray all the time.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- clothes and hats for children to wear to play "dress up," such as: fireman's hat, construction worker hard hat and play tools, ballerina skirt, bride's dress or veil, high heeled shoes, play doctor's kit, chef's hat and apron, sports jersey, etc.

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the instructions.

Instructions

Open the Bible. *The Bible says, "Pray all the time." Who prays to God? Ask each child, Victoria, do you pray to God? Do you know anyone else who prays to God? Weston, do you know any grown-ups who pray to God?*

Today we are going to pretend to be grown-ups! Who would like to pretend to be a grown-up?

Let the children choose clothing to dress up in. As the children dress up, interact with them about what they are wearing. They will enjoy it if you talk to them as if they were the person whose outfit they are wearing. *Victoria, you are a beautiful ballerina! Will you do a dance for me? Weston, you are a strong construction worker! Will you build me a house?*

Have the children sit in a circle and sing "When I Grow Up" from the Unit 14 Song Sheet.

As you sing the song, sing a verse for each child in your group. For example, if you have a child dressed in a ballerina skirt, have that child stand or sit beside you, as you sing a verse about growing up and being a ballerina.

Have the children remove the dress-up clothes and put them out of sight.

Bible Truth Activity

Hold up the Bible. *The Bible says, "Pray all the time." Let's all say that together: "Pray all the time." Ask each child: Victoria, if you are a ballerina when you grow up, what are you going to do? That's right! You will pray. Grown up ballerinas, who are disciples, pray to God.*

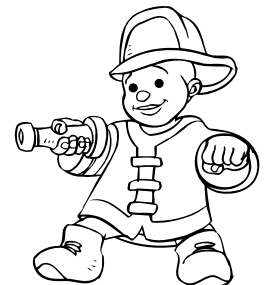
Conclusion

Let's talk to God now. Dear God, Thank you that we can talk to you about everything. Thank you, that we will also be able to talk to you when we are grown up. Please help us to talk to you all the time. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Who are you going to tell about Bible class today? What are you going to tell them?

Teacher Tips

- Be sure all of your dress-up outfits are for real adult occupations. Do not bring in any animal, cartoon or Super Hero costumes. This activity will teach the children that they will love and pray to God when they are adults.
- Have the children take turns dressing up in the different outfits, especially if more than one child chooses the same outfit.
- You may have some children who do not want to dress up. It is fine to let them watch. They will usually join in as they become more comfortable.



Talking to God

This lesson will help the children to understand that praying is talking to God.

Bible Story Text

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- scissors
- markers or crayons
- felt board
- tape
- baby doll
- baby blanket
- clear contact paper or laminate (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out and color the three Hannah pictures from Reproducible Page A.
2. Roll three pieces of tape and put one on the back of each picture.
3. Place the three pictures of Hannah out of order on the bottom of the felt board.

We Can Talk to God

Have the children sit on the floor in front of the felt board where they can see easily. *Have you ever prayed before? Who do you talk to when you pray? Yes, you talk to God. Have you ever prayed a lot for something you wanted? What did you pray for?*

Open the Bible. *Today we are going to read a story from the Bible about a woman named Hannah. Can you say Hannah? Guess what she wanted very badly? Take the children's responses. Hannah wanted a baby!*

How do you think Hannah would look if she wanted a baby very badly and didn't have one? She would probably look very sad! Can anyone point to the picture of Hannah looking sad because she did not have a baby? That's right! Have a child place picture #1 on the top of the felt board.

Now, if you were very sad, what would you do? Take the children's responses. Did you know that God wants you to talk to him when you are sad? He wants you to talk to him when you are happy, too. Just like your Mommy and Daddy want to help you feel better, God wants to help you feel better, too.

What do you think Hannah should do if she is sad and wants a baby? Yes, she should talk to God and tell him how sad she is. She should pray. In the Bible it says that Hannah did pray. She prayed very hard to God (1 Samuel 1:15). Who can point to the picture of Hannah praying? Have a child move picture #2 beside picture #1 on the felt board.

God is always listening to us! He listened to Hannah when she was praying, and guess what happened? God answered Hannah's prayer. He gave her a baby! (1 Samuel 1:19-20). Ask if someone would like to put picture #3 with the others. Here's the last picture that shows Hannah loving her new little baby. His name is Samuel. Can you say that?

Let's go over the story again: Point to picture #1. Here is Hannah, she is sad because she wants a little baby. Point to picture #2. Here is Hannah talking to God about how she feels. Point to picture #3. Here is Hannah loving her new baby that God has given her! How do you think Hannah feels now? Yes, very happy. Do you think she will say thank you to God?

Look, I have a surprise for you. Pull out the baby doll with the blanket wrapped around it. Cuddle the doll like a baby. Let's pretend this is the baby that God gave Hannah! Let's pass the baby around, and then hug the baby. Pass the doll around and let the children hug it.

NOTE: Save the pictures for the Unit 14 Lesson 2, Bible Story.

Hannah Talks to God

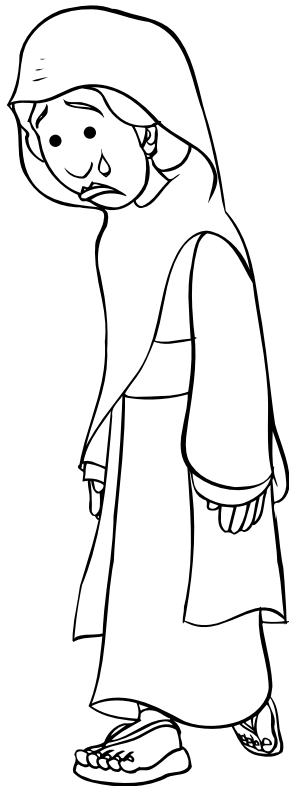
Conclusion

When Hannah talked to God what did she ask for? Yes, a baby. So if we want to let God know about something we need or how we are feeling, what should we do? Yes, we should pray and talk to God.

If there is time, take the pictures off the felt board. Give three children each a picture and help them to place the pictures in order on the felt board. Repeat until all of the children have had a turn. For older threes, allow them to hold all of the pictures, and then put them in order on the felt board.

Teacher Tips

Cover the pictures with clear contact paper or laminate to make them last longer.



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Everybody Can Pray

This craft will help the children to see that anyone can talk with God.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- glue stick
- 1 piece of construction paper

For the teacher:

- red or black shoelaces or yarn
- lace or doilies
- aluminum foil
- white glue
- black marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page F.
2. Prepare the following textured items for each child
 - A. Cut a 7" piece of a shoelace for a "hose."
 - B. Cut a 1½" piece of lace for a "tutu."
 - C. Cut a 1½" "saw blade" from aluminum foil.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Introduce the craft as follows. Show the children your model of the craft. Read the title on the picture: *Everybody can talk to God. When we pray who are we talking to? That's right, we are talking to God. Does God hear our prayers? Yes, he hears our prayers just as he heard Hannah's prayer when she prayed for a baby. Point to the ballerina and ask what she is doing. Ask what the carpenter and the firefighter are doing. We can all talk to God, no matter how different we are or what we do! Children can talk to God and grown-ups can talk to God, too.*

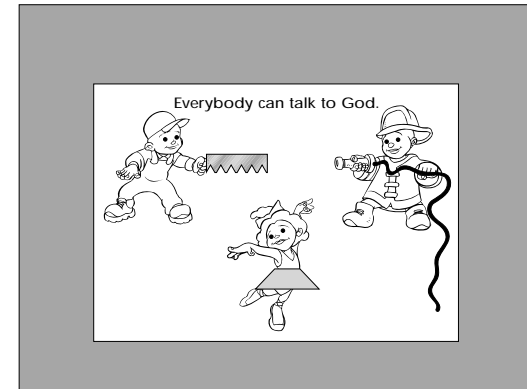
2. Give each child a picture and some crayons. Have the children color the pictures.
3. Give each child a piece of construction paper and help them glue their pictures onto their paper.
4. Help the children to glue the texture items to their pictures as follows:
 - A. Help glue the hose to the firefighter's hands.
 - B. Help glue the tutu to the ballerina's midsection.
 - C. Help glue the saw blade to the carpenter's saw.

Conclusion

To end the activity sing "When I Grow Up" from the Unit 14 Song Sheet. While singing, use the jobs in the craft as examples.

Teacher Tips

- Cut the saw from heavy-duty aluminum foil.
- Use tacky or white glue to hold the "hose" to the paper; glue sticks will not adhere.



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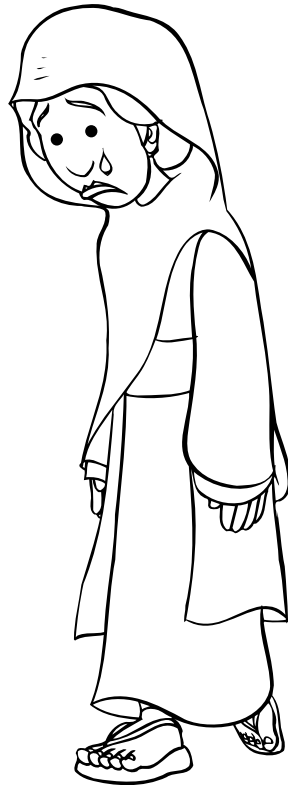


Finished Craft





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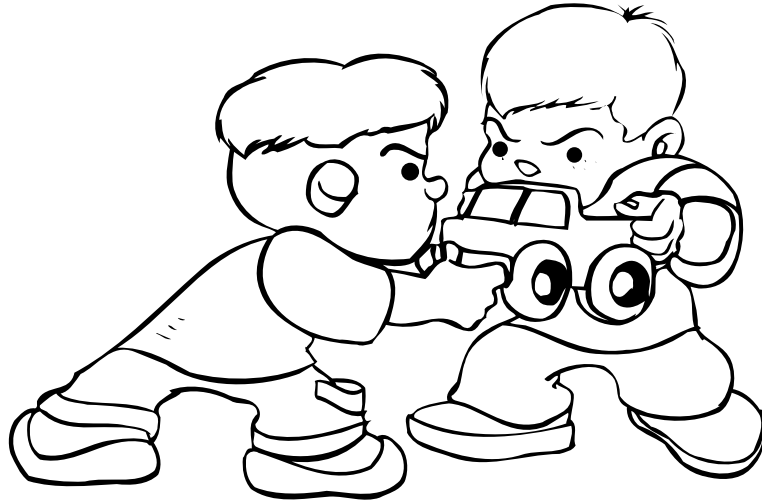


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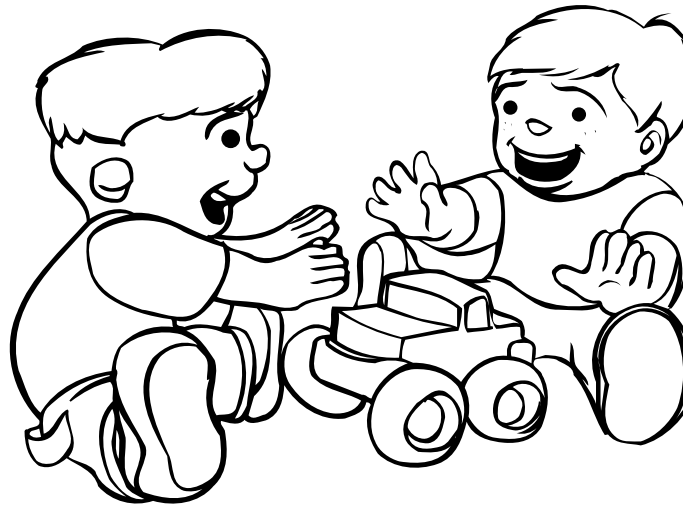
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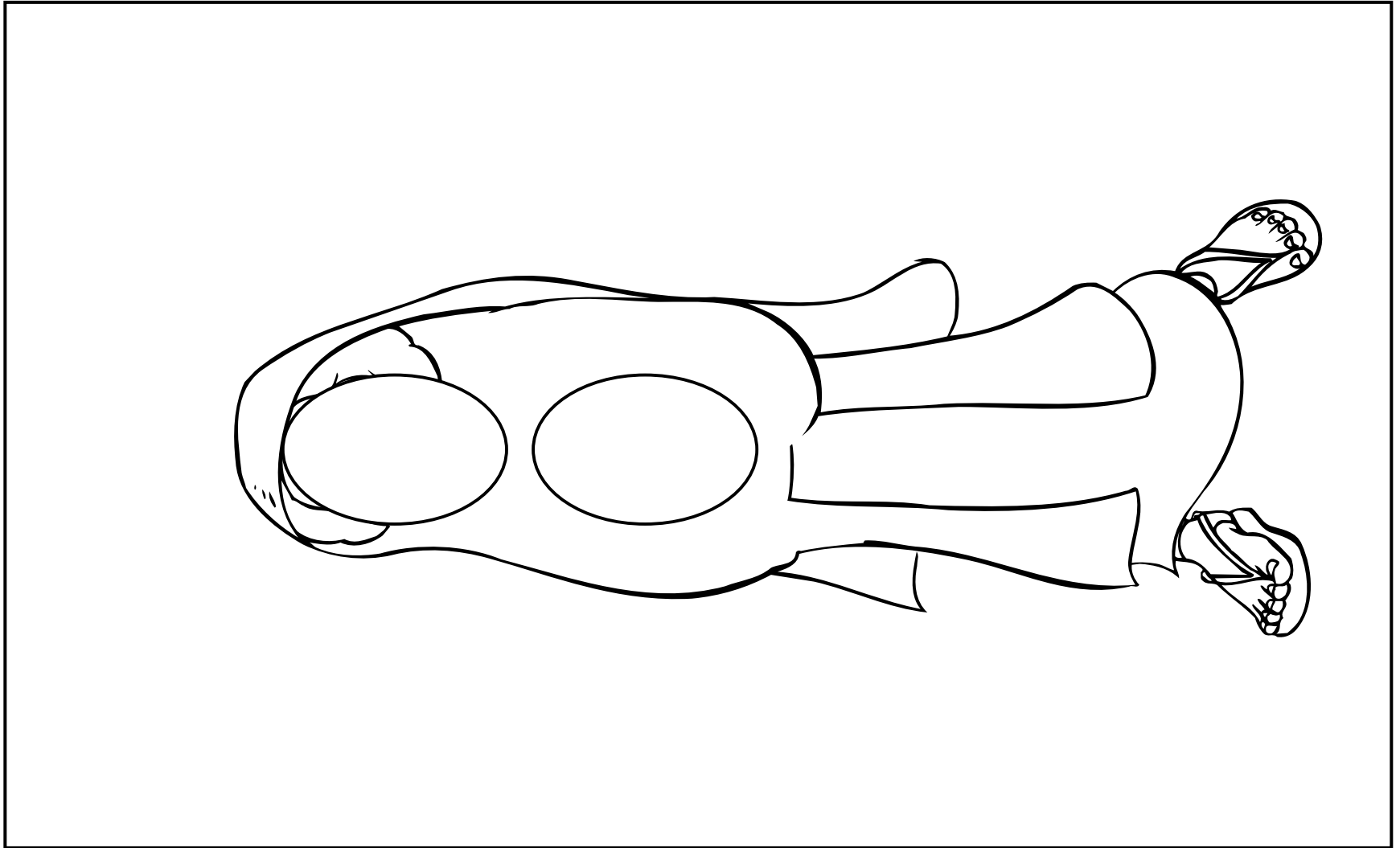


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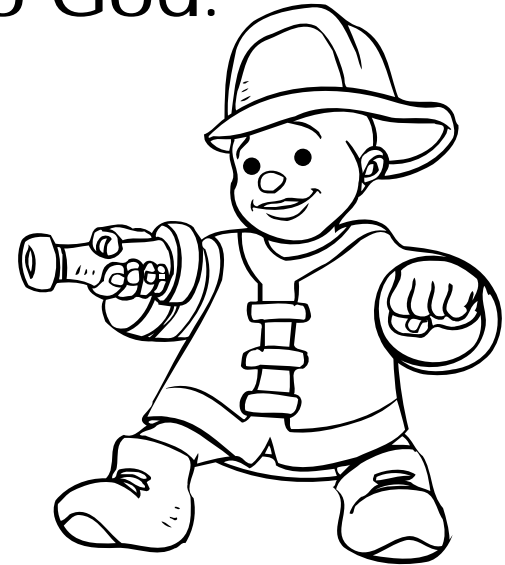
Hannah picture





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Everybody can talk to God.



picture

