

HANNAH: TRUSTING GOD

LESSON TEXT

1 Samuel 1:1-2:11

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will identify Hannah, the mother of Samuel, as one who trusted that God would bless her.
- The students will understand that blessings from God come about through patience and prayer.
- The students will identify blessings in their own lives and determine ways to show gratitude for them.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:

- pen or pencil

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles
- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world
- large writing surface
- marker or chalk

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student
- Page B, 1 copy for each student
- Page C, 1 copy for each student
- Page D, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
 Teacher Focus
 Teacher Tips
 Preclass Activity: God Is Faithful
 Starting Up
 Welcome and Singing
 Opening Prayer
 Victories
 Good News from the Kingdom

Getting into God's Word

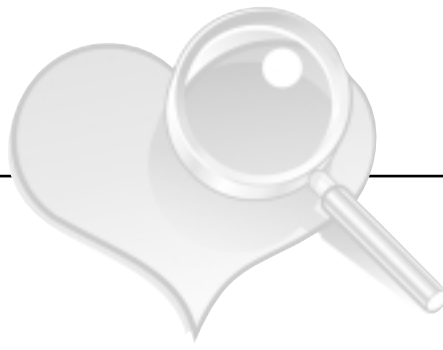
Story: "Jacob Has a New Home"
 Scripture Study
 Activity: God's Blessings/My Gratitude

Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 10:24
 Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
 Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

What the wicked dreads will overtake him;
 what the righteous desire will be granted.
 Proverbs 10:24



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11. Think of specific ways in which God is blessing you and ways in which you show your gratitude. Do you see your preteen class as a blessing in your life? How do you show your gratitude to God and your students for being given this opportunity? Write down your thoughts.

TEACHER TIPS

The story of Hannah teaches us to trust God and to believe that he wants to bless us in many ways. God hears our cries and our prayers, and he is eager to answer us. It is important to teach your students to recognize God's blessings in their own lives and to be grateful for all he has done. As your students share during class, be sure that you point out circumstances for which they should be grateful.

NOTE: Next week the class should be divided into boys and girls. You will have separate lessons with a man teaching the boys and a woman teaching the girls.

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

GOD IS FAITHFUL

The students will use word clues to determine a message about patience and faith.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- pen or pencil

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

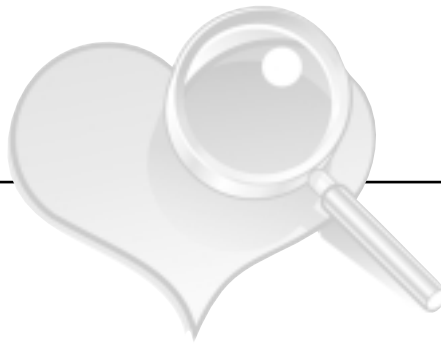
INSTRUCTIONS

1. As they arrive, give each student a copy of Reproducible Page A (God Is Faithful) and a pen or pencil.
2. Instruct the students to open their Bibles to 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11 and to follow the directions on the preclass activity sheet.
3. When they have finished the top portion of the sheet, ask the students to write the things they are praying for God to do in their own lives. Then have them write how they are seeing their prayers answered on the lines provided at the bottom of the page.

ANSWER KEY:

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. temple | 6. weeping |
| 2. servant | 7. Shiloh |
| 3. Elkanah | 8. deliverance |
| 4. vow | 9. Hannah |
| 5. Samuel | 10. priest |

MESSAGE: Trust in God's promises.



STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

OPENING PRAYER

Who would like to say a prayer to start today's time together? Let one or two students lead the prayer. Encourage them to mention missing students, special church activities, illnesses, and to be especially thankful for the chance to be together. Pray that every student will grow in his or her trust in God and in gratitude for all the blessings God has given.

VICTORIES

Take the time to have students share about the challenges they were given at the end of last week's class. *Did everyone complete their challenge? How did it go? What fears did you face as you met the challenge to put the lesson into practice? How did everyone do with having consistent quiet times? Would anyone like to share something they learned?*

Praise and encourage all the students' efforts, especially noting any area of significant growth. Offer help and suggestions so they can have even more victories in the coming week.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE KINGDOM

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world

INSTRUCTIONS

Now let's take a few minutes to share "Good News from the Kingdom." Be excited as you read about what is happening around the world. Have a globe or map ready, pointing out the location as you share. Remind your students that the kingdom of God is worldwide, and the victories of our brothers and sisters in other countries can inspire us and spur us on.





STORY

"JACOB HAS A NEW HOME"

Jeanie Shaw and her family fell in love with an orphan in Romania named Jacob. Jeanie had great faith that God would answer her prayers and never gave up on having Jacob as her son.

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have all the students take out their copies of Reproducible Page A (God Is Faithful). Did everyone find all the words and complete the message?
2. Ask the students to listen as you read the story about Jacob. Direct them to listen for the problem Jeanie Shaw and her family faced and how she responded with great faith.
 - *What was the problem that Jeanie and her family faced?*
 - *How did she respond to that problem?*
 - *If she had not had faith, how would she have responded?*
 - *When your situation does not look hopeful, why is it difficult to trust that blessings will come?*
 - *What do you admire about Jeanie?*
 - *How could you imitate her faith?*



SCRIPTURE STUDY

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles

Have the students take out their Bibles and turn to 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11. Select five volunteers to read the passage. Divide the reading as follows:

1 Samuel 1:1-8

1 Samuel 1:9-20

1 Samuel 1:21-23

1 Samuel 1:24-28

1 Samuel 2:1-11

- *Who were the main characters?* (Hannah—the mother of Samuel / Elkanah—the father of Samuel / Eli—the priest of God)
- *Why was Hannah "bitter of soul"?* (*sad and angry*) (1 Samuel 1:10—Peninnah hurt her feelings by provoking her and tormenting her because she did not have any sons. / She was hurting because she wanted a child and did not have one.)
- *After years of being barren (having no children), what was Hannah's prayer?* (1 Samuel 1:11—If God gave her a son, she would give him to God for his service. / She vowed to dedicate him to God.)
- *Why did Hannah believe her requests would be granted?* (She deeply believed in God. / She was pouring out her soul to the Lord. / She believed that God would grant her request.)
- *Why do you think that God wants to bless those who follow him?* (God loves his people. / God wants to give good things to his children. Read Jeremiah 29:11-13. / God wants us to seek him, and he will give us whatever we need.)
- *What do you think Hannah had to be thankful for?* (She believed in a powerful and loving God. / She had a loving husband. / God heard her prayers and gave her a son. [1 Samuel 1:19-20])
- *If God doesn't give us what we ask for, what might we conclude?* (Somehow it is not best. / He is going to work in another way to answer our prayers. / The timing might be later rather than now.)



GETTING INTO GOD'S WORD

ACTIVITY

GOD'S BLESSINGS/MY GRATITUDE

This activity will help the students to realize what they are thankful for and to express their gratitude in specific ways.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- pen or pencil

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- marker or chalk

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each student

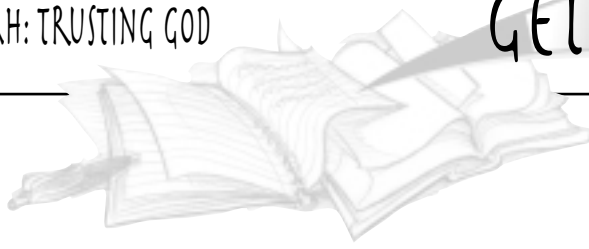
PREPARATION

1. Draw a line to divide the writing surface in half lengthwise.
2. Write the words "God's Blessings" at the top of the left column, and write the words "My Gratitude" at the top of the right column.

God's Blessings	My Gratitude

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Direct the students' attention to the large writing surface. Have someone define the word "gratitude" (thankfulness for something).
2. Talk about how important it is to be grateful for the blessings God has given us. List two specific examples of things that students might see as blessings in the left column:
For example:
 - My baseball coach
 - Plenty of food to eat
3. Ask the students how they could show gratitude for these this week. List several ways in the right column.
For example:
 - Baseball coach: Offer to pick up the equipment after practice. / Tell him how much you appreciate him.
 - Food: not wasting food / appreciating healthy food and not filling up on junk food / thanking your parent(s) for making good dinners / not complaining when a meal is not your favorite
4. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page C (God's Blessings/My Gratitude) and a pen or pencil. Instruct the students to think about seven blessings in their lives and to list them in the left column. Ask them to complete the right column by writing down the ways that they could show their gratitude for those blessings.
5. Circulate, helping the students as needed.



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

What the wicked dreads will overtake him;
what the righteous desire will be granted.
Proverbs 10:24

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page D (Memory Verse).
2. Have the students say the memory verse together aloud several times. Talk about what the verse means.
 - *What does it mean that "what the wicked dreads will overtake him"?* (People who do not trust in God have many fears. Over a period of time living this way, their fears "overtake" them [have a bad effect on them]: make them bitter and angry, make them insecure, even make them unhealthy with ulcers and other physical symptoms. They fear death; it will overtake them and they will not be able to be with God because they have not trusted him.)
 - *What does it mean that "what the righteous desire will be granted"?* (Disciples receive their desires if God thinks they are best for them. Basically, you can have your fears or your desires come true—depending upon whether you decide to be faithful to God or not.)

WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND SNACK TIME

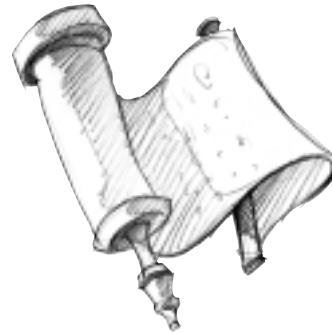
If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat while you explain to them the challenge for the week.

Have the students take out their copies of Reproducible Page C (God's Blessings/My Gratitude). Ask them to share one blessing with the rest of the class, and to share how they will show their gratitude for that blessing. Instruct the students to use their sheets each day this week and to show their gratitude for a different item/person on the list.

Tell the students to complete their lists and to bring their sheets with them to their next class (Supplement Lesson).

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.



WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Every day this week, select a different blessing on your list and show special gratitude for that blessing.

HANNAH: TRUSTING GOD

LESSON TEXT

1 Samuel 1:1-2:11; Matthew 7:7-11

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will identify Hannah, the mother of Samuel, as one who trusted that God would bless her.
- The students will understand that blessings from God come about through patience and prayer.
- The students will identify blessings in their own lives and determine ways to show gratitude for them.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:

- pen or pencil
- 2 pieces colored construction paper

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles
- scissors, several pairs for each group of 5
- glue sticks, several for each group of 5
- magazines, several for each group of 5
- white paper, several sheets for each group of 5

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
Teacher Focus
Teacher Tips
Preclass Activity: Blessings Granted
Starting Up
Welcome and Singing
Opening Prayer and Review
Great News Sharing

Getting into God's Word

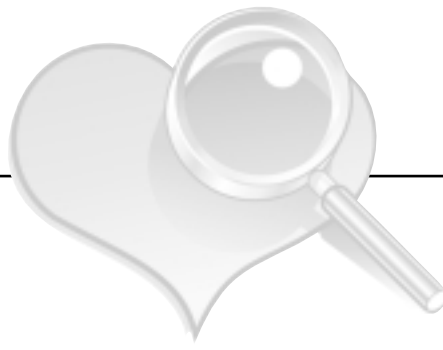
Scripture Study
Activity: Blessings Collage

Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Proverbs 10:24
Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

What the wicked dreads will overtake him;
what the righteous desire will be granted.
Proverbs 10:24



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11 and Matthew 7:7-11. Think of specific ways in which God is blessing you and ways in which you show your gratitude. What types of prayers are you waiting for God to answer? Write down your thoughts.

TEACHER TIPS

The story of Hannah teaches us to trust God and to believe that he wants to bless us in many ways. God hears our cries and our prayers and is eager to answer us. It is important to teach your students to recognize God's blessings in their own lives and to be grateful for all he has done. As your students share during class, be sure that you point out circumstances for which they should be grateful.

The activity for this lesson is a collage. Have plenty of magazines available for your students to use in finding pictures and words of the blessings in their lives. Create a collage yourself to use as an example, and especially as a reminder of all the blessings you have been given by God.

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

BLESSINGS GRANTED

The students will decode a message from God (their memory verse) that tells them to approach their lives with a faith that God will bless.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- pen or pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each student

1. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page E (Blessings Granted) as they arrive.
2. Each group of blocks on the top half of the sheet is duplicated on the bottom half of the sheet, but are scrambled in a different order. Instruct the students to look at the top, right-hand corner box and then follow the arrow to the box on the bottom group. Notice that the group of blocks looks the same.
3. The students should match each group and then write the letters from the top into the spaces below.
4. After filling in all the letters, the students should read from right to left, starting with the top row. The letters they find should be put in the spaces at the bottom of the page as is illustrated.
5. Circulate to ensure that all the students understand the puzzle.

W	█	H	A	T
K	€	D	█	█

I	L	L	█	O
M	;	█	█	W

R	I	█	G	H
S	I	R	€	█

G	R	█	█	A
P	R	O	∨	€

█	T	█	H	€
D	█	R	€	█

∨	€	R	T	A
H	█	A	T	█

T	€	O	∨	S
█	W	I	█	L

N	T	€	D	█
R	B	S	█	█

W	█	█	I	C
A	D	S	█	W

K	€	█	H	I
T	H	█	€	█

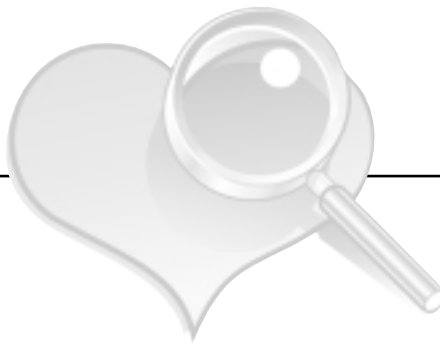
█	█	D	€	█
L	█	B	€	█

█	█	█	█	█
I	O	:	2	4

MESSAGE:

What the wicked dreads will
overtake him;
what the righteous
desire will be granted.

Proverbs 10:24



STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them, and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

OPENING PRAYER AND REVIEW

- Open with one of the students praying for each student to see the blessings in their lives and for each to be grateful for all that God has given them.
- Have one student recite the memory verse for this lesson: Proverbs 10:24.
- Have a student briefly review the previous lesson (Core Lesson).

GREAT NEWS SHARING

Allow several minutes for the students to share great news about their lives. This could be about a family member who became a disciple; someone healed from an illness, someone studying the Bible, great grades, etc. Remind the students to be brief, so that as many as possible can share.





SCRIPTURE STUDY

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- extra Bibles

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have the students take out their copies of Reproducible Page E (Blessings Granted). Review the answers to be sure that everyone figured out the message.
2. Have the students take out their Bibles and turn to 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11. Ask the students to talk about what they learned from this story during their last lesson. Get as many students as possible to participate and share aspects that were significant to them. Have them refer to the passage as they answer.
 - *What were some of the reasons that Hannah received what she was asking for from God?* (She was sincere and truly believed in the power of God. / She asked for something good. / She pleaded with God, begging him for his help. / She was depending on God in prayer, not depending on herself.)
 - *What are some ways in which we can be like Hannah?*
3. Have the students turn to Matthew 7:7-11. Select a student to read the passage.
 - *Does God want to give you bad things? Why not?*
 - *Does God give us everything we want? Why not?*
 - *What kind of heart should you have if you want to be blessed in the way that Hannah was?*
 - *Do you realize that God has been blessing you for a long time?*

ACTIVITY

BLESSINGS COLLAGE

The students will create a collage of God's blessings in their lives, which will serve to remind them to be grateful.

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- pen or pencil
- 2 pieces colored construction paper

For the teacher:

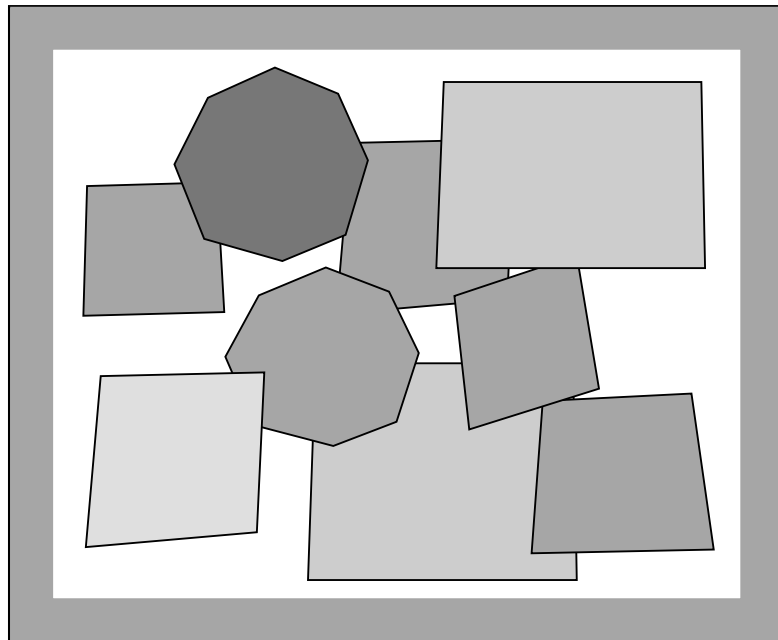
- scissors, several pairs for each group of 5
- glue sticks, several for each group of 5
- magazines, several for each group of 5
- white paper, several sheets for each group of 5

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each student one piece of construction paper. Divide the students into groups of five in order to share supplies. Give each group scissors, glue sticks, magazines and white paper to share.
2. Have the students refer to the list of blessings they wrote down in their last class. (The students were asked to bring this page to class with them. If they forgot them, ask them to remember some of the blessings they wrote down.)
3. Have them search through magazines to find pictures to represent these things. Tell them to cut out the pictures and glue them in collage format to the construction paper. They may also use the white paper to draw pictures or write words to represent their thoughts.



4. Once the students have found pictures or words to represent their seven blessings, have them fill up the rest of their collages with other blessings they have realized during the past few days. Remind the class that each of us has been greatly blessed, and we should never run out of things for which to be thankful.
5. Tell the students to leave at least a one-inch border on their collages.
6. When the students have completed their collages, give each a second piece of construction paper. Tell them to cut the center out to form a frame with one-inch sides to glue to the front of the collage, making it into a "framed" picture.



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

What the wicked dreads will overtake him;
what the righteous desire will be granted.
Proverbs 10:24

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Review the scripture memory verse that was given at the previous lesson.
2. Practice the verse in the class together and encourage each student to have the verse memorized completely by the next class (Core Lesson).

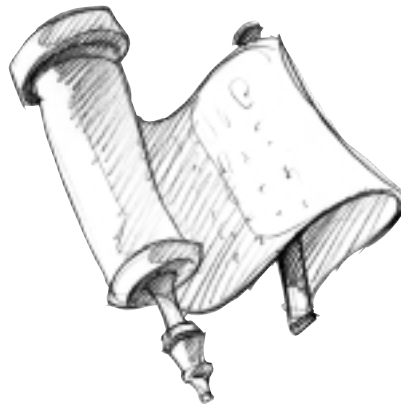
WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND SNACK TIME

If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat while you explain to them the challenge for the week.

The students were to find a way to show gratitude for a different blessing each day this week. Find out how the students are doing with the challenge, and give advice and encouragement where it is needed.

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.



WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Every day this week, select a different blessing on your list and show special gratitude for that blessing.



GOD IS FAITHFUL

Directions: Use 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11 to find the answers to the following clues. Each answer will fit in the spaces given, inserting one letter per space. When you have entered all the words, transfer the letters to the lines of the message below by matching the numbers below the lines. When all the letters have been entered, you will understand the faith that caused Hannah to persist in prayer.

NOTE: Letters with a “•” below the line are not used in the message.

1. Place where Hannah prayed

5 18 15 12 • 18

2. Someone who helps

19 18 2 • • 7 1

3. Hannah’s husband

18 • • • 7 • •

4. Another word for a promise

• 9 •

5. Hannah’s son

11 • 15 3 18 •

6. Crying

• 18 18 12 16 7 8

7. Elkanah and Hannah went to which town?

4 • 16 • 14 •

8. Hannah asked God to grant her _____ from her enemies

10 18 • 6 • 18 13 • 7 • 18

9. The woman who prayed for a son

• • 7 7 • •

10. Eli was one of these

12 2 16 18 17 6

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

What are you waiting for God to do in your life? How do you see your prayers being answered?

JACOB HAS A NEW HOME

"I have learned so much about God's love from a little orphan boy named Jacob. His mother and father have never visited him. He has no family, shares a room with about 20 other boys and is not even sure how old he is. About a year ago Jacob's eyes caught mine. They sparkled. He smiled at me and followed me around. He sought out a relationship with me.

"Soon Jacob will be our son. He will have a family who loves him deeply. I already have his suitcase packed. It has his brother's hand-me-downs and some brand new clothes bought just for him. His sisters and I carefully searched for just the right outfit for his trip home. We measured him to make sure his clothes would fit "just right." Yesterday we put a New England Patriots cap on his head to his deep approval. He walked around as if he were king. We talked of his coming to America, having a family, a new life, a new language. Our entire family waits with eagerness to lavish our love on him."*

Jeanie Shaw wrote this about Jacob two years ago. She had thought that she and her husband, Wyndham, would soon adopt preteen Jacob. But it did not happen as quickly as they had hoped and planned. In fact, at times it looked as if it might never happen. Many of us might have given up, but Jeanie did not!

Months passed and they would hear bad news upon bad news from the courts in Romania. Jeanie prayed faithfully to have Jacob as a son—just like Hannah prayed faithfully to have Samuel. Jeanie never gave up. She believed that God would work to bless their family with a new member: Jacob.

God blessed her faith! He worked a miracle. The judge okayed the adoption. The Shaw family went to Romania to bring Jacob home with them. Jacob Shaw got on the plane with his new family and came to the United States.

Jeanie and Jacob remind us all that God blesses our faith just as he blessed Hannah's faith.



* Jeanie Shaw, "Does Anyone Care That I Was Born?" *HOPE for a Hurting World*, eds. Robert and Pat Gempel and Wyndham and Jeanie Shaw (Woburn, Massachusetts: DPI, 1997), 68-69.



GOD'S BLESSINGS / MY GRATITUDE

It is always important to remember how God has blessed us in many great and wonderful ways. Sometimes, however, we forget what those blessings are and take them for granted. In this activity you will remember several ways that God has blessed you, and you will find ways to express your gratitude.

DIRECTIONS: List seven blessings in your life (things for which you are thankful) in the column on the left. On the right, write down how you can show that you are grateful for those blessings during this week.

BLESSINGS FROM GOD:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

WAYS THAT I CAN SHOW MY GRATITUDE:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

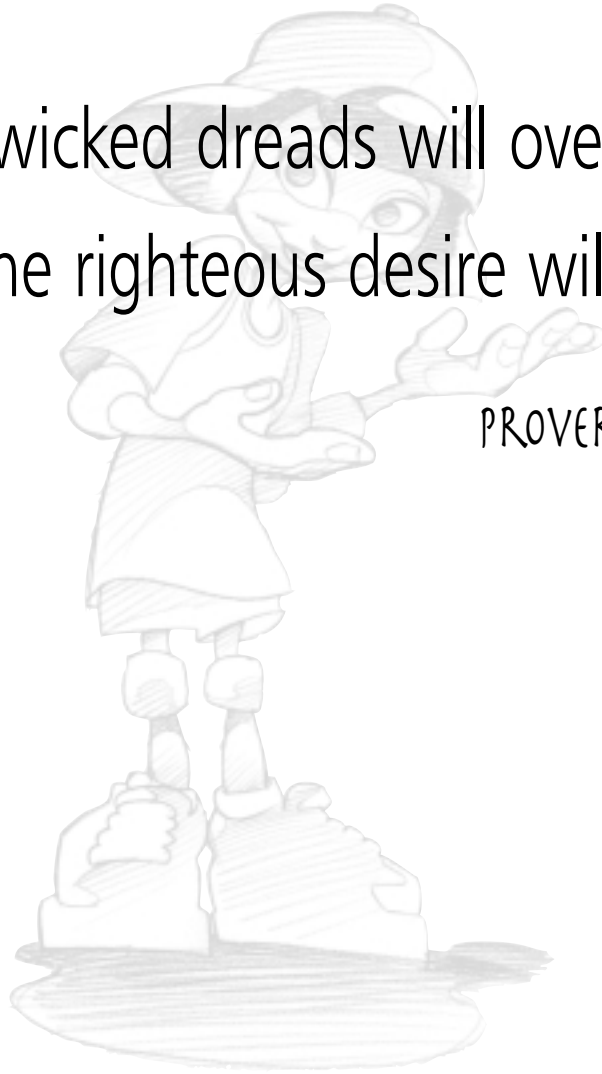
6. _____

7. _____

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

What the wicked dreads will overtake him;
what the righteous desire will be granted.

PROVERBS 10:24



WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Every day this week, select a different blessing on your list
and show special gratitude for that blessing.



BLESSINGS GRANTED

[Blacked out]				
1	0	:	2	4
[Blacked out]	T	[Blacked out]	H	E
D	[Blacked out]	R	E	[Blacked out]
V	E	R	T	A
H	[Blacked out]	A	T	[Blacked out]
I	L	L	[Blacked out]	O
M	;	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	W

[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	D	E	[Blacked out]
L	[Blacked out]	B	E	[Blacked out]
T	E	O	U	S
[Blacked out]	W	I	[Blacked out]	L
R	I	[Blacked out]	G	H
S	I	R	E	[Blacked out]
W	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	I	C
A	D	S	[Blacked out]	W

W	[Blacked out]	H	A	T
K	E	D	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
K	E	[Blacked out]	H	I
T	H	[Blacked out]	E	[Blacked out]
N	T	E	D	[Blacked out]
R	B	S	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
G	R	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	A
P	R	O	V	E

Match each group of blocks on the top half of the page with the similar group of blocks on the bottom half of the page. Then fill in the letters in the open spaces. The first block has been done for you. When you have filled in the blocks, read each line across from left to right and place the letters in order in the spaces below to find the message from God.

W	[Blacked out]	H	A	T
K	E	D	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]

[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]

[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]
[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]	[Blacked out]

Write in the letters below for a message from God.
