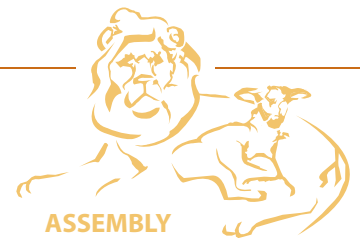


GOD HEARD HANNAH'S PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: I SAMUEL 1



ASSEMBLY

The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material. Feel free to read the story to the children, or retell the story in your own words, using the flannel graph figures to illustrate.

LESSON IDEAS

HURTFUL WORDS

In advance of the class reread the story of Hannah and her husband's other wife Peninnah. Notice how Peninnah made fun of Hannah for not having children. Retell the story to the children using the flannel graph or another means. Ask them the following questions:

- What do you think of what Peninnah did to Hannah?
- Can anyone think of a Bible verse we could use to help Peninnah? (Help the children memorize Colossians 4:6, Let your speech always be gracious.)

ANSWERED PRAYER

Supplies:

• cut out magazine pictures of things the children might pray for, objects could include: a family, toys, mother or father, brothers or sisters, food and clothing

- Have any of you ever prayed for something? (Have children raise hands or accept any answer.)
- Did you receive what you asked for? (Have children raise hands or accept any answer.)
- Why don't we always get what we ask for? (Read James 4:3. We often pray for things that we want more than we want God. God often does not give us things that would distract us from serving Him.)

If you cut out several pictures of people and other things, you could hold them up in front of the class. Ask, "Which things might draw our attention away from God?" Help the children to see that we should pray to God for what we need but also pray that we would not be captured by those things. Read Matthew 6:31-34.

GOD HEARD HANNAH'S PRAYERS

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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Hannah cried out to the Lord to give her a son and committed him to the Lord for God's service. Little did she realize her little boy would be used to anoint the first two kings of Israel. Samuel anointed Saul and thus established anointing as God's means of indicating his choice. Later Samuel anointed David, out of whose household the Savior would be born. Samuel was called a prophet and is credited, as were the other prophets after him, of foretelling the coming of the Messiah.

Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days.

(Acts 3:24)

