

GOD HEARD HANNAH'S PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: I SAMUEL 1



The STORY

Read "A Baby for Hannah" from The Children's Bible in 365 Stories page 125.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What happened in this story? (Hannah was sad that she did not have a son, so she prayed to God and he granted her request.)
- Why did she pray to God? (God is sovereign, which means he controls all things. Hannah knew it was God who could give her a child.)
- What did Hannah have that helped her believe God could do anything? (Hannah had faith. Faith is the word that describes our belief in God and the works He does.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Hannah kneeling down praying to God. Engage the children by asking:

- What do you think helped Hannah have faith in God? (Hannah knew what the Lord had previously done for her people when He brought them out of Egypt and gave them victory in battles. Surely the Lord could give Hannah a son.)
- What can help us to have strong faith in our God? (Reading the Bible stories of what God has done in the past helps us to know that he is all-powerful and able to do anything.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- What is prayer? (Prayer is talking to God. It can be a request like Hannah's or it can be talking to God giving him praise or just sharing your struggles with him.)
- Have any of you had God answer one of your prayers?
- Why should we pray to God? (The Bible also tells us to pray continually (see 1 Thessalonians 5:17) and to pray for different reasons such as when we are in trouble [see James 5:13]).

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)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

