

## Family Worship at Home. November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### 1 Samuel 1:5-20 Hannah's Prayer

Ask children to tell you what they know about prayer. Explain that prayer is talking to God or Jesus. Prayers can be spoken out loud, or they can be thoughts in our minds. Our prayers may be words of praise, asking God for something we need or asking Him to forgive us for something we have done wrong. Express that God always hears our prayers.

Tell the children that today's Bible story is about a woman named Hannah, who prayed to God.

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Read the story

Bible Story "God Answered Hannah's Prayer" (1 Sam. 1:1-20) A long time ago, a woman named Hannah was very sad. Hannah was sad because she and her husband did not have any children. One day, Hannah went to worship and pray. As she entered the tabernacle, Eli the priest saw her. He noticed how sad she looked. Hannah may have gotten on her knees and bowed her head to pray. Hannah cried as she began talking to God. Hannah asked God to give her a son. She told God if He would give her a son, she would help him know and love God. Eli could not help but overhear Hannah praying and crying. He went over to Hannah to see what was wrong. She told Eli she was talking to God about why she was so sad. Eli told her God would answer her prayer. Not long after, Hannah had a baby boy. She and her husband named him Samuel. Hannah kept her promise and helped Samuel know and love God. Samuel grew up to be a man who loved and followed God.

Or from a children's Bible or watch clip: [28 Hannah's Prayer - YouTube](#) or Lego story - [Hannah's Prayer - YouTube](#)

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Why was Hannah so sad? *(Because she did not have any children.)*
2. How did Hannah ask for God's help? *(She prayed.)*
3. What did Hannah pray for? *(A son.)*
4. Do you think Hannah was happy that she prayed to God? *(Yes, because God gave her a son.)*
5. Can you share a time that God answered a prayer for you? *(Allow for answers.)*

Activity: God answers prayer snack game.

Have a paper bag with slips of paper with yes and no on them. Have a plate of snacks (biscuits, lollies and pieces of fruit).

God always listens to our prayers but he doesn't always answer them the way we want. Sometimes we have to wait for him to answer and sometimes he answers us in a different way. We may not know why God doesn't give us what we want but we can trust that he knows what is best for us. Let's have some fun seeing if we get what we ask for.

Children ask the question: May I have a lolly? Or May I have a biscuit? Or May I have a piece of fruit? After they ask the question they pull out a piece of paper to see what the answer is. If it says yes, they may take what they asked for. If not they have to wait for their next turn. Keep going for a few turns each.

This is just a fun game. Let's remember that God loves us and always listens to our prayers and he answers us in the way that is best for us.

### Activity: Guess What You Hear?

**PREPARATION:** Beforehand, find five or six familiar items that make an identifiable sound, such as the examples above. Put all these items into a large paper bag or shopping bag or pillow case.

#### **WHAT YOU WILL DO:**

Have everyone close their eyes as you remove one item at a time from the bag and make a noise with it. After making the noise, place the item back into the bag, and then let the kids open their eyes. Then ask them if they know what the item was by the sound, they heard. Let them know if they were right or wrong before going to the next item in the bag.

#### **WHAT YOU WILL SAY:**

Sometimes we can tell what something is just by the sound it makes. At other times, just hearing the sound is not enough. We need to see it also. But when we pray, we don't need to worry about how we sound, or if God will hear us. He will know who it is, because Jesus takes our prayers to the Father. We can pray and be sure that God will hear and answer our prayers.

