



HANNAH AND SAMUEL

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 1–3

FOCUS VERSES: 1 Peter 5:7; Luke 12:6–7; 1 Samuel 12:24; Colossians 3:17

Summary: More than anything else, Hannah wanted a baby. She prayed fervently to the Lord, promising that if He gave her a child, she would dedicate the child to God’s service forever. Hannah gave birth to Samuel. She kept her word and left him with Eli, the high priest, to serve in the temple. God called out to Samuel, but Samuel didn’t know it was Him. After several times, Eli told Samuel to respond to God. God raised up Samuel to be a prophet for all of Israel.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

For nothing will be impossible with God.

(LUKE 1:37)



God cares about us.

We will go deeper in God’s truth by answering these questions:



DOES GOD KNOW WHAT’S HAPPENING IN PEOPLE’S LIVES?

God knows everything, including the details of every single person’s life. He knows us and cares about us.



HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GOODNESS TO US?

We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.



HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?

Kids will reflect and respond to the truth they learned about God.

Leader TRAINING

LEADER TRAINING TOPIC: REMEMBER IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU

When a kid responds in a way that does not meet our expectations, it's common to take that behavior personally. This can cause leaders to become frustrated and respond in ways that are not helpful and may even escalate the kid's behavior. Here are some ways to stay calm in the midst of tough situations.

- **Check your breathing:** Before responding, take a few deep breaths. This is also a great modeling for the kid who may be having a hard time. As they see us breathing deeply, often they will do the same.
- **Pray.** Matthew 19:26 says: *With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.* Need more patience, discernment or calm? Ask God for it.
- **Reframe the behavior:** Instead of being offended at the kid's behavior, consider what this behavior may be telling you and how you might help. If we approach the kid as someone needing help, we will tend to approach them in a more compassionate and empathetic way.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: FOSTER CARE

In today's story, kids might be confused why Hannah entrusted the very child she had prayed for to someone else's care. In this situation, Hannah was keeping a promise to God. She loved Samuel so much that she wanted the best for him, which in this case meant living and serving God in the temple. There are over 340,000 kids in foster care in the United States.* In these situations, kids end up living with someone other than their parents due to sickness, trouble or neglect. You may have kids in your group who have been in the foster care system. Avoid asking specifics about why kids are in foster care or about the situation of their biological parents. It might be difficult for them to discuss, but there is also a good chance they don't know the whole situation. Recognize that many kids in foster care have experienced significant trauma, resulting in emotional or behavioral challenges that they may exhibit in your group. Offer support and acceptance to all kids while partnering with foster parents to understand how best to meet kids' needs.

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

ELEMENTARY GLOSSARY

Infallible: never wrong, failing, or making a mistake

Omniscient: all-knowing

Prophet: a person who gives God's messages to His people

Temple: the holy place where God's people went to worship Him

Bible TEACHING

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

1 SAMUEL 1-3



PRAY: God, Your care for us is amazing. You heard Hannah, and You hear us too. Help us understand Your care as we listen to Your Word today. Amen.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, printable pages

PREP:

Print the printable pages or use the teaching slides.

LEADER TIP:

Let the entire group attempt to sound out the words instead of calling on volunteers.

Say: Have you ever had trouble understanding something you hear? Today a boy named Samuel will have real trouble understanding God's voice in the night. You might also have some trouble understanding some words at points in the story. I will show you some strange-looking words. You'll need to work together with others in our group to sound out what the words are really supposed to be! Let's try it.

Say: During the time of the Judges, there was a woman named Hannah who did not have any children. Each year, Hannah and her husband would travel to this place:

Show image #1: "Thuht Emmpull."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: the temple.

Say: Hannah wept and prayed to the Lord. "If You will give Your servant a son," she said, "I will give him back to serve You his entire life."

Show teaching illustration: Hannah Prays for a Baby.

Say: This person saw her praying silently with her lips moving:

Show image #2: "Eeyl I Duh Preest."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: Eli the Priest.

Say: Eli thought there was something wrong with her. Hannah explained that she was pouring out her soul to the Lord. Eli said, "Go in peace, and may God answer your prayer."

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Say: God did answer Hannah's prayer. He saw her tears and knew her heart. He cared for her. He gave Hannah this:

Show image #3: "Aybay Beeb Oiy."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: a baby boy.

Say: She named the baby Samuel, which means "heard of God" because she had asked for him from the Lord. Hannah prayed, praising God.

Read 1 Samuel 2:2 directly from the Bible: *There is none holy like the LORD; for there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.*

Say: When Samuel was a boy, Hannah took him to the temple to live, just as she promised. Samuel served the Lord in the temple, alongside Eli the priest.

Say: Eli had these who were doing very evil thing:

Show image #4: "Tuice Unns."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: two sons.

Say: Eli's sons didn't know the Lord. They didn't follow God's commands for the sacrifices, and they took things for themselves. One night, as Samuel slept, the Lord called his name, but Samuel didn't understand what he was hearing.

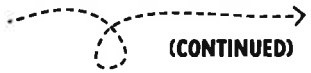
Show teaching illustration: God Calls to Samuel.

Say: Samuel ran to Eli and said, "You called me." He also said this:

Show image #5: "Heerai Yam."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: here I am.

Say: "I didn't call you," Eli told him. "Go back to bed." This happened two more times before Eli realized what was happening. "Go back to bed," he told Samuel. "When you hear your name called again, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" God spoke to Samuel again!

 (CONTINUED)

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Read 1 Samuel 3:11: *Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle."*

Say: God told Samuel about the evil things Eli's sons were doing. They didn't know the Lord. They didn't follow God's commands for the sacrifices and they took things for themselves.

Say: The Lord cared for Hannah and answered her prayer for a child. The Lord also cared for Israel by removing Eli's evil sons and raising Samuel to become a great prophet in Israel. This sentence was true for them and it is true for us:

Show image #6: "God Kayr Sfour Uhz."

Have kids try to sound out the nonsense words to discover the answer: God cares for us.

Show teaching slide: Point to Jesus.



POINT TO JESUS

Say: Jesus' whole ministry on Earth showed that God cares for His people. Jesus healed many people, helping those who were sick or couldn't walk or couldn't see. He wept when His friends were sad because their brother Lazarus died. He reached out to people who were ignored in His society. Jesus showed that God cares about our hurt and provides for us. Most of all, Jesus showed how much God cares for us by sacrificing Himself for our sins.



THUHT EMPUH

Image #1



**EYEL
DUH
PREST**

Image #2



**AYBAY
BEEB OIY**

Image #3



TWICE
DAYS

Image #4



HEERAI
YAM

Image #5



**GOD KAYR
SFOUR
UHZ**

Image #6

Small Group ROADMAP

1

BELONG (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

WHAT DO YOU LIKE?

SUPPLIES: None

OR

PRAISE WEB

SUPPLIES: Ball of yarn

2

BELIEVE (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

REPEAT IF YOU...

SUPPLIES: Bibles, teaching slide, printable pages, paper bag, scissors

OR

GOD KNOWS AND CARES FOR ME

SUPPLIES: Bible, pony beads (10 per kid), heart beads (2 per kid), elastic cord, scissors, bowls (1 per 4 kids)

3



DISCIPLESHIP DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

Goal: To engage kids in faith conversations that help them navigate a broken world with biblical wisdom

4

BECOME (10 MINUTES)

Goal: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

ACTS OF SERVICE

SUPPLIES: Bible, Take-Home page, coloring supplies

OR

DRAW AND TELL

SUPPLIES: Bible, Take-Home page, coloring supplies, cardstock (1 per 2 kids), scissors



WHAT DO YOU LIKE?

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with hearing needs, place them close to the leader for better access.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God never fails. How have you seen this week that God hasn't failed you?
4. **Say:** Let's play a game where we learn more about each other!
5. **Say:** I will call out a characteristic, and you will form a group in the middle if it matches who you are!
6. *Characteristics to call out:*
 - Favorite color (*call out colors one at a time*)
 - Oldest (or youngest) kid in your family
 - Eye color (*call out colors one at a time*)
 - Favorite animal (*call out options one at a time*)
7. **Say:** Great job forming groups based on what you liked! Now we all need to work together!
 - Have kids order themselves from shortest to tallest
 - Have kids find someone with their matching foot size
8. **Discuss:** How are we the same? How are we different? What did you learn about someone else?

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

You all really did a great job of paying attention to what I called out! I loved learning more about each of you! God cares for us so much. He knows everything about us and is here for us no matter what.



PRAISE WEB

SUPPLIES:

Ball of yarn

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: Brainstorm beforehand a list of ways kids can see that God cares for them!

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Strategically place struggling students with a positive model on either side of them in the circle.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God never fails. How have you seen this week that God hasn't failed you?
4. *Gather kids in a seated circle.*
5. **Say:** Let's pass this ball of yarn around to each other to form a colorful web!
6. **Say:** Each time the yarn is in your hands, you will tell us one way God cares for us, and then you will pass the yarn to another person in the circle.
7. *Start the activity by saying one way God cares for us and then pass the ball of yarn to someone else, being sure to hold onto the end of the yarn. Encourage kids and help as needed. Remind kids to hold onto a piece of the yarn as they pass the ball to form the web.*
8. **Say:** Wow! We have made a colorful web showing all the ways God cares for us!
9. *If time allows, pass the ball back around the circle, retracing the web and gathering the yarn back into a ball. This time, have kids share one thing that God knows about them.*



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

We are so blessed that the God of the universe knows and cares for each one of us. He knows what's in our hearts and gives us everything we need!



REPEAT IF YOU...

SUPPLIES:

Bibles, teaching slide, printable pages, paper bag, scissors

PREP:

Print or show the Memory Verse teaching slide. Print the printable pages and cut out. Place the cards in the bag.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Allow for modified movements for kids with mobility needs (e.g., raising arms up and down instead of standing).

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Lead kids to find Luke 1:37 in their Bibles. Read it aloud together.*
2. **Discuss:** How did God show He could do the impossible in our story?
3. **Discuss:** Does God know what's happening in people's lives?
4. **Say:** God knows everything, including the details of every single person's life. He knows us and cares about us. He knew everything about Hannah and what she was going through. He knows everything about us too! Nothing is impossible with Him!
5. **Discuss:** Let's practice our verse and learn more about each other!
6. *Invite someone to choose a card from the bag. Read the card aloud. Kids will stand if the statement is true for them. Say the verse along with the kids who are standing.*
7. *Continue until all the cards have been picked and the verse has been said several times.*
8. **Discuss:** What does God know about your life?
9. **Discuss:** How has God cared for you?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God knows everything about what is happening in your life. He knows all the details of your life. He knows if you are going through a hard time or if you are doing well in school or on your sports team. He knows and cares for us.



GOD KNOWS AND CARES FOR ME

SUPPLIES:

Bible, pony beads (10 per kid), heart beads (2 per kid), elastic cord, scissors, bowls (1 per 4 kids)

PREP:

Cut the elastic cord into 12-inch pieces (1 per kid). Divide the beads into the bowls.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Kids with fine motor needs may require support when stringing beads.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** What did God know about Hannah's life?
2. **Discuss:** What did He do to show He cared about Hannah and Samuel?
3. **Discuss:** Does God know what's happening in people's lives?
4. **Say:** God knows everything, including the details of every single person's life. He knows us and cares about us.
5. **Read:** Luke 12:6–7 and Psalm 139:1–4.
6. **Discuss:** What do these verses tell us God knows about us?
7. *Pass out the supplies.*
8. *Invite kids to string on a heart bead to start their bracelet.*
9. *Invite kids to share something God knows about them as they make their bracelets such as their favorite color, food, activity or subject in school; what makes them happy, excited, sad or scared; what they do after school; what they like to do in their free time.*
10. *Continue until they have completed their bracelets and shared the details from their lives that God knows and cares about.*
11. **Say:** Now let's put on our last heart bead to end our bracelet. The hearts remind us that God knows everything and He will always care for us.
12. *Help kids tie their bracelets on their wrists.*
13. **Read:** 1 Peter 5:7.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

When you look at your bracelet, remember that God knows and cares for you! You can talk to Him anywhere, anytime, about anything!



Discipleship DISCUSSION

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FOLLOWERS OF JESUS?

Discuss: How does this true story from the Bible show us that God is good?

Say: God heard Hannah's prayer. He answered her prayer and gave her Samuel. God shows His goodness in His care for us. He hears our prayers and helps us.

Read Psalm 18:6 directly from the Bible: *In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From His temple He heard my voice, and my cry to Him reached His ears.*

BUT WHAT ABOUT ... FOSTER CARE?

Discuss: What did you think about Hannah leaving Samuel to grow up in the temple?

Discuss: Are there situations where kids live with people who aren't their parents?

Say: Sometimes kids live with other family members. Sometimes kids live in foster care, which means they live with another family because there is a reason they cannot live with their own.

Discuss: What do you think God has to say about that?

Say: God loves when families grow by including others. Psalm 68:6 says: *God settles the solitary in a home.* In other words, God puts those who are alone in families. Sometimes, kids end up alone because their parents are sick or going through a really tough time. God shows He cares by providing love during that really hard time. There were probably times when it was hard for Samuel to grow up in the temple instead of in his parents' house. But God used the place where Samuel was to call him and to prepare him to be the prophet of Israel. God cares about every kid and is with every kid, no matter their situation. He can use the really hard things we go through in His plan for our lives.



ACTS OF SERVICE

SUPPLIES:

Bible, Take-Home page, coloring supplies

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid).

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Pair kids who may struggle with this activity with a friend who can help.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** What did God give Hannah? What was Hannah's response to God?
2. **Say:** Hannah was so happy and thankful to have a baby that she dedicated Samuel to God's service.
3. **Read:** Colossians 3:17.
4. **Discuss:** How can we respond to God's goodness to us?
5. **Say:** We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.
6. **Discuss:** Have you ever been so thankful for something that you wanted to do something nice for the person who gave it to you? What did you do?
7. **Say:** That's how it is with God! We are so grateful for His goodness that we want to serve Him.
8. **Discuss:** How can we serve and be thankful for His goodness?
9. **Say:** In pairs, you will act out one way that you can be thankful to God by serving Him and others.
10. *Assign pairs ideas to act out, such as helping a family member or friend, telling someone about Jesus, giving food or serving at a food pantry, comforting a friend who is sad or hurting.*
11. *Divide kids into pairs and give them time to choose and prepare their idea.*
12. *Invite each group to act out their idea.*
13. **Discuss:** How can you show gratitude to God and serve Him this week?
14. **Pray:** God, thank You for knowing the details of our lives and caring about us. We are so grateful for Your goodness and want to serve You. Amen.
15. **Say:** God cares about us. Let's take time to respond to Him.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Lead kids to use the "Me Question" box on their Take-Home pages. Ask fun, relationship-building questions while kids wait to be picked up. As parents arrive, connect with them and point out the Take-Home page.



DRAW AND TELL

SUPPLIES:

Bible, Take-Home page, coloring supplies, cardstock (1 per 2 kids), scissors

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid).
Cut the cardstock in half (1 half per kid).

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with anxiety and who get overwhelmed easily, encourage them frequently during their turn or guide them through sharing.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Discuss:** How did God care for Hannah? How did Hannah respond?
2. **Read:** Colossians 3:17.
3. **Discuss:** How can we respond to God's goodness to us?
4. **Say:** We can respond to God with thankfulness and a willingness to serve Him.
5. *Pass out cards and coloring supplies. As a group, discuss ways God has shown His goodness, such as family, friends, school, home and food. Have kids pick one of these to illustrate.*
6. *After kids draw their pictures, have them sit in a circle. Choose one kid to go first and show and tell about their drawing to the group. After each person shares, have the whole group shout, "Thank You, God, for Your goodness!"*
7. *Have the first person choose the next person to share. Have them ask, "____ (kid's name), how has God been good to you?"*
8. *Continue until all the kids have answered.*
9. **Say:** Hannah said thank You to God, but she also served God by dedicating Samuel to God.
10. **Discuss:** How can we be thankful to God and serve Him?
11. *Discuss ways to serve God together, such as donating things, helping others and serving at church. Have kids pick one way to serve God and draw a picture of it. Invite kids to go around the circle again and share what they drew. After each person shares, have the whole group shout, "I can serve God!"*
12. **Pray:** God, thank You for knowing the details of our lives and caring about us. We are so grateful for Your goodness and want to serve You. Amen.
13. **Say:** God cares about us. Let's take time to respond to Him.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Lead kids to use the "Me Question" box on their Take-Home pages. Ask fun, relationship-building questions while kids wait to be picked up. As parents arrive, connect with them and point out the Take-Home page.



REPEAT IF YOU...

YOUNGER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 2 OF 2

PREP: Print the printable page.

**Stand if you
ate at a
restaurant
this week.**

**Stand if you
played
a sport this
week.**

**Stand if you
did homework
this week.**

**Stand if you
went to a
friend's house
this week.**

**Stand if you
watched a
movie this
week.**

**Stand if you
played a
video game
this week.**



REPEAT IF YOU...

YOUNGER ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP
HANNAH AND SAMUEL

PAGE 2 OF 2

PREP: Print the printable page.

**Stand if you
ate candy
this week.**

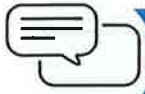
**Stand if you
went to an
after school
activity this
week.**

**Stand if you
washed the
dishes this
week.**

**Stand if you
cleaned your
room this
week.**

**Stand if you
made your bed
this week.**

**Stand if you
ate breakfast
this week.**



TAKE-HOME

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 SAMUEL 1-3 Hannah prayed for a child and promised to dedicate him to the Lord. God gave her Samuel, and she kept her promise. God called Samuel and raised him up as a prophet for Israel.

POINT TO JESUS: Jesus' whole ministry on earth showed that God cares for His people. In many ways He showed that God cares about our hurt and provides for us. Most of all, Jesus demonstrated how much God cares for us by sacrificing Himself for our sins.



MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)

FAMILIES, ASK THESE THREE QUESTIONS!



**WHAT WAS THE MOST INTERESTING
THING YOU LEARNED ABOUT HANNAH
AND SAMUEL?**



**DOES GOD KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN PEOPLE'S LIVES?**

God knows everything, including the
details of every single person's life.
He knows us and He cares about us.



**HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO GOD'S
GOODNESS TO US?**

We can respond to God with
thankfulness and a willingness to
serve Him.

HOW IS GOD INVITING

ME

TO RESPOND?

CHOOSE ONE:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ I can talk to God about ... | ☐ I wonder ... |
| ☐ I can remember ... | ☐ I can ... |



DRAW OR WRITE YOUR RESPONSE

YOUR FAMILY'S WIN THIS WEEK ...

Ask your pastor one way your family can serve your church family this week.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD

Foster Care can be a tough topic for kids. We can help kids view this topic through the lens of Scripture. Learn more about this and how to have a conversation at home here. [Britecurriculum.com/tough-topics](https://britecurriculum.com/tough-topics)

**WANT MORE
AT-HOME
DISCIPLESHIP
DISCUSSION?
SCAN ME!**



GOING DEEPER

Read God's Word this week!

Read each passage with a grown-up and answer the three questions together.

☐ **DAY 1**

Read: 1 Samuel 1:26-28

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ **DAY 2**

Read: 1 Samuel 3:8-11

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ **DAY 3**

Read: 1 Peter 5:6-7

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?

☐ **DAY 4**

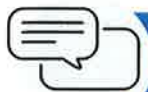
Read: Psalm 55:22

HE: What do these verses tell us about God?

WE: What do these verses tell us about people?

ME: How is God inviting me to respond?

?



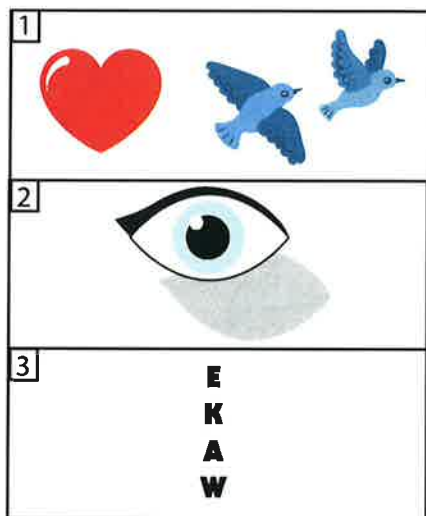
TAKE-HOME ACTIVITIES

HANNAH AND SAMUEL



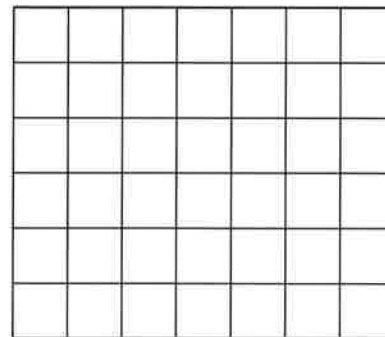
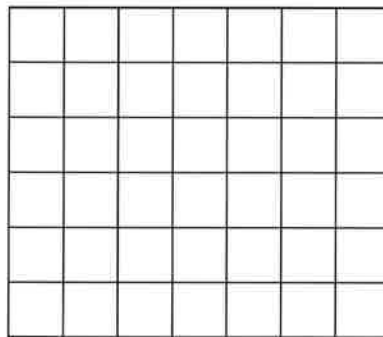
COLOR THE ILLUSTRATION

REBUS PUZZLE



1. Love Birds 2. Wake Up

CONNECT FOUR



Find a partner.
Take turns putting an "x" or "o" in boxes. You must put your shape in the lowest box in the column.
The first player to get four in a row in any direction wins!

1 SAMUEL 1-3

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

