



HANNAH AND SAMUEL

BIBLE PASSAGE (1 SAMUEL 1-3)

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.

Today's Brite Idea is: God cares about us.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!



God is caring.



God cares
about us.



God cares
about me.

LEADER TRAINING: CATCH THE GOOD

It's easy to notice what's going wrong. You look around and see a spilled snack, a kid pushing in line or someone interrupting circle time. But one of the most powerful classroom management strategies is simple: *catch the good*.

- **Notice the positive.** Intentionally look for moments of kindness, helpfulness, or focus, however small...and you'll see what you look for.
- **Say it aloud.** Say things like: "I love how you helped your friend just now!" Praising good behavior affirms that kid and encourages others to follow suit.
- **Call out Christlikeness.** When kids are recognized for acts of kindness, patience or helpfulness, point out how their behavior reflects Jesus' goodness.
- **Follow Jesus' example.** He noticed and affirmed faith, love and obedience, even in small acts. You should too.
- **Make it a rhythm.** Scan for good moments, speak them aloud and let kids know they are seen, valued and loved—by you and by Jesus!

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](https://www.britecurriculum.com/resources)

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Serve: to do something for God or God's people

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

1

BELONG

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

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

LISTEN AND PASS

SUPPLIES: Ball, music player, kids' worship song

OR

COLOR CORNERS

SUPPLIES: 4 different colored papers, painter's tape

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (20 MINUTES)

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

(1 SAMUEL 1-3)

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, printable pages

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

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

MEMORY VERSE PASS

SUPPLIES: Beanbag, Memory Verse Song, music player

OR

WHISPER

SUPPLIES: None

4

BECOME

Small Group (15 MINUTES)

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

GOD IS MY ROCK

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, smooth rocks (1 per kid), foam stickers (4 per kid), paper (1 per kid)

OR

GOD CARES ABOUT YOU

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, paper (1 per kid)



LISTEN AND PASS

SUPPLIES:

Ball, music player, kids' worship song

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: If you need multiple groups doing this activity at the same time, say "go" and "stop" instead of playing a song.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For active learners, strategically place the kids in the circle next to a positive model. Remind kids of criss-cross applesauce during activity or provide chairs as needed.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** Let's play a game where we listen to a song as we pass the ball! When the song stops, whoever has the ball will greet the group in a fun and nice way.
3. *Start the music and have kids pass the ball quickly around the circle.*
4. *When the music stops, say, "Stop! Greet us like a robot!" (or another silly greeting).*
5. *Repeat with new greetings: cowboy handshake, superhero fist bump, silly wave, gentle hug (if kids are comfortable).*
6. **Ask:** What was your favorite greeting?
7. **Ask:** Who did you sit next to during the game?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

That was fun! God loves us and cares about us. Today we will learn more about how God is caring.



COLOR CORNERS

SUPPLIES:

4 different colored papers, painter's tape

PREP:

Put a piece of the colored paper in four designated spots. Secure with painter's tape if needed.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For struggling learners, provide a visual of the color you are calling out for them to match where they are going.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome, everyone! My name is _____. Can you each tell us your name? *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Look around, do you see the colors? When I call out a color, go to that corner the way I say!
2. *Examples:*
 - Walk fast to (color) paper.
 - Hop to (color) paper.
 - Tiptoe to (color) paper.
 - March to (color) paper.
 - Skip to (color) paper.
3. *Play several rounds, changing colors and actions.*
4. **Ask:** What is your favorite color?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Do you know who made all the colors in the world? God did! God also made you and cares about you. Today we will learn a Bible story that teaches us more about how God is caring. Can you give yourself a big hug? God cares about you so much!

INTRO:

Play Countdown Video and guide kids to sit together for large group teaching time.

WELCOME:

Say: Welcome! I am so glad you are here today and I'm excited to learn about a true story from the Bible with you.

RECAP FROM *Last Week*

Say: We learned about how God did what He said He would do. He made the sun stand still so Joshua could win the battle.

Show teaching image: Joshua Prays & Sun Stands Still.

Say: Last week we learned about how God was victorious and helped Deborah, Barak, and the Israelites win over their enemies!

Show teaching image: Barak Asks Deborah to Come With Him.

Say: Today we will learn a true story from the Bible about another woman who loved God very much. Her name was Hannah.



BIG QUESTION

Say: Let's take a look at this month's Big Question. Can you help me do a drumroll? Ready? 1, 2, 3 drumroll!

Show Big Question Teaching Slide.

Say: Will God ever fail us?

Play the "Find It in the Bible" song.

Hold up a Bible.

Say: Who can tell me the name of this book? *Allow kids to respond.*



PLAY FIND IT IN THE *Bible Song*

Say: Yes! This book is called the Bible. The Bible is the most important book of all. The Bible is full of true stories about how God takes care of His people and loves them. Today we will hear a story from the Old Testament in the book of 1 Samuel. The Old Testament is filled with lots of stories about God's creation, His people and the things that happened before Jesus came to Earth.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, teaching pictures (printed/shown from teaching slides), video player, music player, printable pages

PREP:

Print the printable pages.

LEADER TIP:

Use the large group printable to help teach this Bible story and engage the kids.

HANNAH AND SAMUEL **(1 SAMUEL 1-3)**

Say: There once was a woman named Hannah. Hannah didn't have any kids. This made her sad. Everybody say, "Aww."

Hold up the sad emoji.

Say: Hannah cried and prayed. "Dear God, if You give me a baby boy," she said. "I will give him back to **serve** You his whole life."

Show teaching illustration: Hannah Prays for a Baby.

Hold up the praying hands emoji.

Say: Eli, a special leader God had chosen, saw her praying. When Hannah told him what she was praying for, Eli said she would have a son. God heard her. He was going to answer her prayer!

Hold up the ear.

Say: And God did exactly that! Soon, Hannah had a baby boy. She named him Samuel! Everybody say, "Wow!" Hannah prayed, "There is no rock like our God." Hannah praised God for His faithfulness.

Hold up the baby emoji.

Say: Samuel grew up into a little boy. Hannah took him to the **temple** to live, just as she promised. Samuel **served** God right next to Eli. God had big plans for this little boy!

Hold up sleepy emoji.

Say: One night as Samuel slept, the Lord called his name.

Show teaching illustration: God Calls to Samuel.

Say: At first, Samuel thought it was Eli. But it was God Himself. God was speaking to the little boy, Samuel! Everybody say, "Whoa!"

Say: God told Samuel about bad things Eli's sons were doing, and that Eli and his sons wouldn't continue **serving** Him.

Say: The Lord took care of Hannah and answered her prayer for a baby. The Lord also cared for His people by giving them Samuel.

Hold up the heart emoji.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Serve: to do something for God or God's people

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



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God cared for Hannah and gave her a baby boy. God cares for us in an even greater way with an even greater Son. Jesus, God's Son, came to show us that God keeps His promises and cares for His people!

Say: Let's close in prayer as we wrap up our Bible story time together. Reach your hands up really high.

Reach hands up high.

Say: Now clap them together like this.

Clap hands together.

Say: Let's pray.

Pray: Dear God, thank You for caring about us. Help us to follow You and Your ways. Amen.



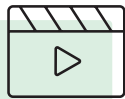
BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
1, 2, 3... drumroll!

Show the Big Question Teaching and Answer Image.

Say: Will God ever fail us? No, never!

Say: That's right! The Bible teaches that God is always victorious. He is always what is right and He is the greatest of all.



VERSE VIDEO

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- For nothing (shake finger "no")
- will be (spread arms out again)
- impossible (cross arms in front of you again)
- with God. (point up)
- Luke 1:37 (open hands like a book)



MONTHLY

Memory Verse

*For nothing will be
impossible with God.*

(LUKE 1:37)



REVIEW:

Say: It's been so great being with you today, friends! Before we end our teaching time, let's review what we have learned. Let's all point up really high and say, "God is caring."

Have the kids point up and say, "God is caring."

Say: Now let's reach our hands out to the side and say, "God cares about us."

Have kids reach out and say, "God cares about us."

Say: Now let's point to ourselves and say, "God cares about me."

Have kids point to themselves and say, "God cares about me."



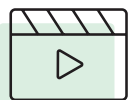
God is caring.



God cares about us.



God cares about me.



* Consider showing the Bible Review Video as kids eat snack, are waiting for pick-up, or another time that fits your church's schedule.



MEMORY VERSE PASS

SUPPLIES:

Beanbag, Memory Verse Song, music player

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids with mobility needs, allow extra space and time for specialized equipment and processing movement.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God hears us when we pray.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** Let's practice our memory verse with a toss game!
3. **Say:** I'll pass this beanbag back and forth in our circle. As we pass it back and forth let's sing along to our Memory Verse Song together!
4. *Play the Memory Verse Song. Begin passing the beanbag as you lead kids to sing along to it and learn their memory verse.*
5. *Repeat the song and encourage kids to pass the beanbag as fast as they can.*
6. **Ask:** What does this verse teach us about God?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

God is the greatest! Nothing is impossible for God. God's Word is true! When we say our verse, we are remembering God is bigger than anything. And this great, big God cares about us!



WHISPER

SUPPLIES:

None

PREP:

None

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: For kids who are hard of hearing, a visual cue for starting and stopping could be helpful (e.g., open hand when starting and closed hand when stopping).

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned that God cares. God listens when we pray and hears us.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Let's walk quietly around our space. When you hear me whisper, stop, freeze and then repeat what I say.
2. *Lead kids to put on their listening ears by pretending to twist something over their ears.*
3. *Have kids start to walk around and repeat back your whisper.*
4. *Whisper:*
 - God cares for you.
 - God loves you.
 - God hears your prayers.
 - God is with you.
 - God made you.
5. *Have kids whisper back your statement.*
6. *Repeat several rounds.*
7. **Ask:** Who hears us when we pray?



ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God always hears us when we pray, just like He heard Hannah. This helps us to know that God is caring. Who can you tell that God cares about them?



GOD IS MY ROCK

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, smooth rocks (1 per kid), foam stickers (4 per kid), paper (1 per kid)

PREP:

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

LEADER TIP: Make sure the rocks are large enough to avoid being a choking hazard.

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Kids with speech needs may need extra time or suggestions to answer questions.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Hannah said, "There is no rock like our God." Let's decorate rocks to remind us of God's strength and how He cares about us!
2. Give each kid a rock and foam stickers to decorate their rock with.
3. As kids decorate, ask them to share how God cares about them.
4. Give suggestions as needed, such as God cares how they are feeling, what matters to them, He loves them, He cares about what they believe in, etc.
5. Set the rocks onto the paper and write the kid's name on their paper and set them aside for parent pickup.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What prayer did God answer for Hannah?
- What was the baby's name?
- Who did Hannah praise?
- Who will always care about you?

PRAY TOGETHER:

Thank You, God, that You are strong and always with us. Thank You for caring for us and about us. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.



GOD CARES ABOUT YOU

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, paper (1 per kid)

PREP:

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

ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT LEARNERS: Kids with fine motor needs may have difficulty drawing on paper. Assist by providing hand-over-hand assistance or encouragement to persevere.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Today we learned that God is caring. God cares about us just like how He cared about Hannah and Samuel in today's Bible story.
2. **Say:** I will give you a piece of paper. I want you to draw a picture of yourself with a big heart around it to show that God cares about you.
3. **Say:** Then we will swap papers with another kid and pray for them.
4. *Pass out paper and coloring supplies. Lead kids to draw themselves with a heart around them. Once they are done, pair them up with another kid.*
5. *Have them pray for one another. Have them repeat after you, "Thank You, God, for (kid's name). Thank You for caring for them. Amen."*
6. **Say:** God cares about you! How amazing that the God who created everything, even you, cares so much about you! God is great and caring!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What prayer did God answer for Hannah?
- What was the baby's name?
- Who did Hannah praise?
- Who will always care about you?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Thank You, God, that You are strong and always with us. Thank You for caring for us and about us. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3–4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions on what kids should do in each center.

- **Dramatic Play:** Lay out baby dolls, small blankets, bottles and baskets. Encourage kids to pretend to feed, rock, and tuck in babies.
- **Creation Station:** Provide wax craft sticks or pipe cleaners for kids to create a person out of. Share how God loves them.
- **Telephone Cups:** Put out cups for kids and encourage them to use the cups like phones and try to talk to each other.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time or while waiting for parents.

Say: Hannah wanted a baby. She prayed and asked God for a son. God gave her Samuel. Hannah was so happy! When Samuel grew, he lived at the temple and helped Eli. One night God called Samuel's name. Samuel listened and said, "Speak, Lord, I am listening."



BIG QUESTION

Will God ever fail us? No, never!