



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.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

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

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

*For more resources on this topic, check out: [britecurriculum.com/resources](https://www.britecurriculum.com/resources)

1

BELONG

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

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

CARING FOR OTHERS

SUPPLIES: Stuffed animal

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (15 MINUTES)

HANNAH AND SAMUEL (1 SAMUEL 1-3)

SUPPLIES: Bible, Bible story cards

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

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

MEMORY VERSE TOSS

SUPPLIES: Music player, Memory Verse Song, beanbags (1 per 2 kids)

4

BECOME

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

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

PRAYER BOX

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, stickers (4 per kid), glue, tape, scissors (prep)



CARING FOR OTHERS

SUPPLIES:

Stuffed animal

PREP:

None

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome everyone! My name is _____. *Greet each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** Today we will learn about a woman named Hannah who prayed to God for a baby.
3. **Say:** We will pass this stuffed animal around as we say "God is caring."
4. *Lead kids to pass the stuffed animal around the circle. Lead kids to say "God is caring." Say it slowly and then faster and faster.*
5. **Ask:** Who cares for you?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

God cares for each of us. Today we will learn about how God cared for Hannah and answered her prayer. Let's learn more about God's care in our Bible story.

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

(1 SAMUEL 1-3)

Use the Bible story cards to teach the Bible story or read the script to the kids.

Say: Today's true story from the Bible comes from the book of 1 Samuel. Hannah was sad because she did not have any children. Hannah prayed to God. Can you put your hands together like you are going to pray? "Dear God, if You give me a baby boy," she said, "I will give him to You and let him **serve** You his whole life."

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! Everyone say, "Hooray!"

Say: Soon, Hannah had a baby boy. She named him Samuel. Samuel grew up and Hannah took him to the **temple** to live, just as she promised. With Eli, Samuel **served** God. God had big plans for Samuel. Can you hold out your arms super big?

Say: One night, Samuel was asleep and God called his name. At first, Samuel thought it was Eli. But it was God Himself. God was speaking to Samuel! Wow! God told Samuel bad things Eli's sons were doing and that Eli and his sons would not keep **serving** God.

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 cares for us in an even greater way with an even greater Son. Jesus, God's Son. Who came to show us that God keeps His promises and always cares for His people.

WRAP-UP:



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.

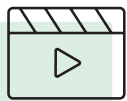
Say: Will God ever fail us? No, never!



God is caring.

God cares
about us.

God cares
about me.



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)



MEMORY VERSE TOSS

SUPPLIES:

Music player, Memory Verse Song,
beanbags (1 per 2 kids)

PREP:

None

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned God answered Hannah's prayer for a baby. God took care of Hannah, and God takes care of us. We can trust in God and know that nothing is impossible with Him.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Divide kids into pairs.*
2. **Say:** Our memory verse teaches us that nothing is impossible for God. Let's toss the beanbag back and forth to our partner as we listen to our Memory Verse Song.
3. *Lead kids to sit down with their partners. Hand each pair a beanbag. Then play the song. As it plays, help kids toss their beanbag back and forth.*
4. *When the song ends, lead kids to all say the verse together and then repeat the song and activity with a new partner.*
5. **Say:** *For nothing will be impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)*
6. **Ask:** Is anything too hard for God to do?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

Our memory verse teaches us that nothing is impossible with God. God is greater than anything! God is caring and loving.



PRAYER BOX

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, stickers (4 per kid), glue, tape, scissors (prep)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Print the printable page on cardstock and cut out (1 per kid).

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** God cares for you, and God cares for me! One way we can care for others is by praying for them. Let's make a special prayer box where we can remember to pray for others.
2. *Hand out a precut printable page and coloring supplies. Lead kids to color in and decorate the template.*
3. *Pass out stickers for kids to decorate their prayer box with.*
4. *Hold up one of the printable pages and read aloud what each box says.*
5. **Ask:** Who can you pray for?
6. *Write the kid's name on their prayer box and help each kid assemble it into a cube and glue it along the tabs.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who cares for you?
- How did God answer Hannah's prayer?
- Did Hannah keep her promise to God?
- Who spoke to Samuel?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You for caring for us. Help us to love and care for others too. In Your name we pray. 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.

- **Modeling Dough:** Provide modeling dough and encourage kids to create something that they love and care about.
- **Find the Hearts:** Fill a bin with sand and place foam hearts for kids to find. Provide mini cups or scoops for kids to use to find the hearts. Share how God is caring.
- **Musical Instruments:** Provide musical instruments for kids to play and sing about God's care and love for them.

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!