

CONNECTING FAITH AND LIFE

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN | YOUTH | FAMILY | ADULT

CONNECT

Share highs and lows

READ

1 Samuel 1:9-11, 20-28a

(Storybook Bible - P. 118 Hannah Prays for a Child)

SHARE

- When is a time in your life when you felt like Hannah (praying for something you really wanted)?
- What are some prayers that God has answered?

DO

A NEW BABY (geared towards younger students)

Supplies: picture of a baby or optional baby doll

Talk about the excitement of a new baby on the way.

Ask: Have any of you ever been a baby? *[yes]* Do you remember what it was like? What did you eat? Where did you sleep? What did you do? *[answers will vary]*

Ask: Are any of you mommies? *[No]*

Say: Many people hope to be mommies and daddies someday. They want the joy of loving a baby and watching it grow to be an adult.

Do: Show some pictures of babies from picture books, on your phone, or show your child's baby pictures.

Ask: What do you see in these pictures of babies? *[Answers will vary.]*
What makes babies so fun? *[Answers will vary.]*

Exploring the story: Think about the story we just read. Who was the women in the story who wanted a baby so badly? *[Hannah]* Where did Hannah go to for help? *[to God, to pray to God at the the temple tent.]* What promise did Hannah make to God? *[If God gave her a baby, she would give the baby back to God's service]* Explain that Hannah would love her baby, but out of love for God and for her baby, she promised God to raise her son in the temple where he would learn to serve God for the rest of his life. She promised to raise her son to love, follow, and serve God forever. Hannah still loved her son very much and visited him and made him a coat each year.

KEY POINT

Hannah models obedience and trust in God.

KEY VERSE

1 Samuel 1: 26-27
And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord.

For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him."

SONGS OF PRAISE

Supplies: Songs of Praise Handout for each student; Writing Utensil, Bible

Say: Worship is any way that we show God our love. This might be singing, giving, praying, dancing, or some other creative form of expressing our love for God to God.

Read: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Say: As we read Hannah's worshipful prayer, it reads like a song. Using Hannah's prayer song as a model, we are going to write our own songs of praise to God. DON'T WORRY you do not have to be a song writer to do this and we are going to use a handout to help guide us.

Do: Handout the "Songs of Praise" worksheet and a pencil.

Say: Use the prompts to help you write your prayer song. Give students a set amount of time to work.

Share: When students are done you can invite them to share their song or just pick and choose a few prompt questions to share.

THERE'S NO ROCK LIKE OUR GOD

Supplies: rocks large enough to paint/color on, decorating supplies (i.e. markers, paint, etc.)

Say: Hannah knew that God was her Rock, and rocks can be a great visual reminder to us to pray. We are going to decorate rocks that will act as reminders to us to pray and praise God like Hannah did.

Do: Distribute stones and decorating supplies (If at home go outside find a stone and decorate it with what you have available.)

GAME: HUMBLLED AND EXALTED

Supplies: 6 sets of supplies per group - Game Boards, Pennies or game markers, dice,

Say: For this activity we are going to play a game of "Chutes and Ladders," but instead we will call it "Humbled and Exalted." Much of Hannah's song centers on how God humbles the prideful and exalts the lowly. The Scriptures are full of these kinds of reversals, as we see God lift up the needy and forgotten (ladders), but humble those who think they are "high and mighty" (chutes).

Do: Divide students into groups of 2-3 students. Giving them each a dice, game markers, and game board. Then play the game

PRAY

There is no Holy one like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. Amen

BLESS

"Air" high five each other and say, " You have an awesome God, who lifts you up when you are down. Amen."



Songs of Praise

Songs of praise are written and used in worship.

Questions to Help you Write	Your Song of Praise
What does your heart rejoice in?	
How do you describe God?	
What are your feelings toward God?	
What has God done for you?	
What will you count on God to do for you?	
What are some praise words?	
What can you say to thank God?	

Humbled and Exalted

Play a Bible-based version of "Chutes and Ladders."

