

THE STORY @ HOME

KIDS 3RD-6TH NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-6
1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10

LAST WEEK

God leads the people of Israel out of Egypt and gives them instructions on how to live God's way. But, the people disobey right away by worshipping a statue of a calf (Exodus 32:1-14).

THIS WEEK

A woman named Hannah did not have children, but God promised to give her a son. That son, Samuel grows up to become a great leader (1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10).

THE POINT

God hears the prayers of everyone.

STORY SUMMARY

Hannah and Samuel

Hannah desperately wanted a son. In the time and place she lived, women without children were ridiculed and thought to have little value. Hannah asked God to bless her with a son, but the answer of "yes" did not come right away. Year after year, Hannah went to the tabernacle (a tent for worship) and prayed for a son. Hannah promised that if God gave her a son, she would dedicate him to God's service. God heard Hannah's prayers and blessed Hannah with a son who would play an important role in biblical history. Hannah worshipped and praised God for hearing her prayer and blessing her with a child.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Ancient History

The books in the Old Testament of the Bible, from Joshua through Esther, are part of what we call the "History Books." The stories in these books were not intended to be a purely factual account of what happened, like how we think of history today. Instead, they remind the readers of God's involvement in the lives of the Israelites. That knowledge can remind them of the wisdom in following God as they make decisions.

PRACTICE: WORSHIP

Worship is any way that we show God our love. Hannah sang a song of praise to God for answering her prayer. Look through a hymnal, song book, or online to find a song or chorus with words that are meaningful to your family. Sing that song to God. Or make a list of things that God has done in your family's life and sing that list—with thanks—to God.

NEXT WEEK

Samuel becomes a great leader and anoints David as king of Israel. David does many great things. But, when he wants to build a house for God, God promises that David's house would rule Israel forever (2 Samuel 7:1-17).

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TRY IT @ HOME

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Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✞ Share a time when you prayed and did not receive an answer right away.
- ✞ What kinds of words do you pray to God when you desperately want a prayer to be answered?
- ✞ What should we do while we are waiting for God's answer to our prayers?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10 Hannah promised God that if given a son, she would give the son back to God. Find in the house an item of sentimental or monetary value. Give it to a family member. Allow the family member hold it briefly and give it back.
Monday—Read 1 Samuel 3:1-18 God called Samuel to be a prophet. At first Samuel did not realize that it was God's voice calling him because he did not know God yet. Call some friends or family members on the phone. Take turns saying hello and then tell them about Hannah and Samuel without identifying yourself. Do they recognize your voice?
Tuesday—Read 1 Samuel 8:1-22 Even though God is the King of Kings, the Israelites demanded a human king. Samuel warned of the demands a human king might make, but the people still insisted on a king. Pretend a chair is a throne. Take turns sitting in it and telling the family what you will expect from them when you are the ruler of the family.
Wednesday—Read 1 Samuel 9:27; 10:1-9 Samuel poured oil on Saul's head and told him that when God's spirit comes upon him, he will be changed. He will have a new heart that loves and serves God. Make a crown out of paper, and draw a picture of a heart on another paper. Do this for each child in your family. Put the crown on each child's head and the heart on their chest.
Thursday—Read 1 Samuel 13:2-14 Rather than waiting for God to help, when Samuel did not return in the designated time, Saul took matters into his own hands. His disobedience led to the end of his reign. Find a simple snack recipe with limited ingredients. Part of the family will follow the directions while the others do their own thing. Compare the final product.
Friday—Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13 The young men whom others expected to become king was not the one God chose. God knew David's heart and had Samuel anoint young David, the shepherd boy, as king. Take the youngest child in the family, raising the child high up on your shoulders (if you are able to), and march around the room.
Saturday—Read 1 Samuel 24:4-12, 16-20 Even though Saul was out to kill David, when David had the chance he did not harm Saul. Build a cave out of cushions or pillows. One child wearing a robe will rest in the cave. Another will go in with his fists made, but will simply touch the robe and leave.

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