

LESSON 3

GOD ANSWERS HANNAH'S PRAYER

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Answers Prayers

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 1

GOD'S BIG STORY: After years of praying, Hannah is still childless. Though sad, she continues to pray in the tabernacle where she encounters Eli the priest. God answers her prayers, and Hannah gives birth to Samuel, whom she returns to the Lord.

Activity: Take Care of Baby

Activity: Toy Phones

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Pray and Answer Motions

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Activity: Take Care of Baby

SUPPLIES: baby doll, baby doll toy supplies (such as blanket, toy pacifier, baby toys, toy bottle, etc.)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I'm so glad you're at church today! Today in our story, we're talking about a woman who prayed for a baby and how God answered her prayers! Let's play with this baby as we get curious about our story today and learn how God hears and answers our prayers! Can you pretend to feed and play with the baby doll?

Give the kids a baby doll and toys to play with. Give them various tasks to do for the baby, such as pretending to feed, rock, or play with the baby. You can encourage them to sing songs to the baby and ask them to name the baby.

Activity: Toy Phones

SUPPLIES: toy telephones (non-functioning cell phones, cordless phones, rotary phones, etc.)

Have you seen someone talk on a phone? People call and talk with each other on phones. When the phone rings, you answer by saying, "Hello?" Can you answer the phones?

Encourage toddlers to play with the toy phones. Make a "ring, ring" sound and then encourage the kids to pick up the phone and answer by saying, "Hello?" Let each child have a chance to answer the phone. Then let them take turns saying, "Ring, ring."

Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

ANSWERS—Cup hands over ears.

PRAYERS—Put your hands together (praying hands).

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today, we'll learn in God's big story how God answers our prayers! Let's sing and thank God!

Play songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, scissors (prep only), cardstock (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#), God's Big Story Pictures

Ahead of time, print one set of the God's Big Story Pictures and cut the cards apart. You may want to print them onto cardstock for durability.

In God's big story today, we're learning a great story from the Bible about a person named Hannah. Encourage the kids to say, "Hannah." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Hannah!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided.

There was a woman in the Bible named Hannah who couldn't have a child. This made her very sad. Hold up the card of the sad face.

Hannah prayed and asked God to give her a baby. Hold up the praying hands card.

As she was praying, a man named Eli saw how sad Hannah was. He told Hannah that he hoped God would answer her prayer. When Hannah left, she didn't feel sad anymore. Show the happy face card.

Do you know what happened next? God answered Hannah's prayer. She had a baby son. Show the baby card. **She named him Samuel.**

Just like God heard Hannah, He hears you too. He is always faithful to hear us and answer us in the best possible way. God answers prayers. Hold up the praying hands card.



Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

Dear God, thank You for answering our prayers. We know You're in charge of everything and that You love us. Remind us that we can always pray to You and You always answer us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: **May you trust that God hears your prayers. May God show Himself to you in your life. May God's presence give you hope and peace.**

Activity: Pray and Answer Motions

What did Hannah pray for? Allow the kids time to answer. **Yes, she prayed for a baby! We're going to remember what God did for Hannah as we play this game.**

If I say, "Pray," you put your hands together. Demonstrate the praying hands motions and encourage the kids to do it. **If I say, "answer," you put your hands to your ears like you're waiting for an answer.** Do the motion and encourage the kids to mimic the motion. **If I say, "happy," you can clap your hands and cheer like Hannah might have done when God answered her prayer!**

Say the words, pray, answer, and happy several times and encourage the kids to do the motions with you that correspond with each word.