UNIT 10, SESSION 2

HANNAH AND SAMUEL

1 SAMUEL 1-3

KEY POINTS

God hears our prayers. • We keep our promises to God. • Everything we have belongs to God.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who hears our prayers? **God hears our prayers!**

MEMORY VERSE

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. **Matthew 5:14**

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PREPARE

Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

God hears us and speaks to us. This week's lesson focuses on one of the most amazing gifts we have as believers: our relationship with God through prayer. Prayer is not simply saying words; it's a conversation with our loving Heavenly Father. As preschool leaders, you have the beautiful privilege of helping children begin to understand that they can talk to God anytime, anywhere, and that He listens to them.

In this lesson, children will learn from Hannah and Samuel that God hears His people and speaks to them. Hannah's story shows us that we can bring our deepest hopes, hurts, and desires to God. Hannah longed for a child, and though she faced ridicule and disappointment year after year, she continued to trust God and pray faithfully. God heard her prayer and, in His perfect timing, gave her Samuel. Hannah's response reminds us of the importance of keeping our promises to God and recognizing that everything we have ultimately belongs to Him.

As leaders, this is an opportunity to reflect on our own prayer lives. Do we bring everything to God in prayer, or only certain things? Hannah's example encourages us to trust God fully and remain faithful, even when answers don't come immediately.

Samuel's story reminds us that prayer is not only talking to God, but also listening for and to Him. When God called Samuel, the boy responded, "Here I am." Samuel shows us that even children can hear and respond to God. This is an important truth for preschoolers to begin learning early! They're not too young to know God, to hear His Word, and to respond to Him.

God primarily speaks to us through His Word, the Bible. As leaders, we help children learn to listen to God by teaching Scripture faithfully. We also model listening hearts ourselves. Children learn not only from what we say, but also from how we live. When they see leaders who pray, trust God, and listen to Him, they begin to understand what a relationship with God looks like.

MOTHER'S DAY

Today is a day we set aside every year to celebrate moms. As joyful as today is for many, it can also be hard for those who have lost or don't have a good relationship with their mom. Please make an effort to remain conscious of this today and be sensitive to children's needs, actions, and reactions throughout the morning.

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WELCOME & OPENING

Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of "This Little Light of Mine":

You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill
cannot be hidden.
Matthew 5:14

Repeat 2x

THE LORD'S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord's Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

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CRAFT

Help children with a Mother's Day craft.

CRAFT: COOKIE BAGS

Give each child a white paper bag, markers/crayons, and stickers. Let children decorate their bag as they want.

When children are done decorating, give each child one of the provided cookie mix packets and a set of cookie cutters to put in their bag. Encourage them to give it to their mom, grandma, older sister, aunt, etc. for Mother's Day!

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BIBLE TIME

Review the Bible lesson with your class.

BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Hannah asked God for a baby. She promised to give Him back to God. God heard Hannah and gave her a baby boy. She named him Samuel. When he was old enough, Hannah took him to the temple to live. Samuel lived and served God in the temple.

One night, Samuel heard someone call his name. He got out of bed and spoke to Eli, the priest. But it was not him. Eli told him what to do if it happened again: "Next time answer, 'Speak LORD, for your servant is listening."

Samuel heard God's voice again. He said, "Speak LORD, for your servant is listening." God told Samuel many important things.

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Hannah wanted a baby more than anything else. Hannah prayed to God. Hannah said that if God gave her a son, she would give him back to God. God heard and answered Hannah. God gave Hannah a baby boy. She named him Samuel.

Hannah looked after Samuel and he grew. When he was old enough, Hannah remembered her promise and took him to the temple to live. Samuel served God and lived in the temple.

One night, Samuel heard someone call his name. He got out of bed and spoke to the priest, Eli. But it was not Eli who had called him. He went back to sleep, but heard someone call him again. It still wasn't Eli. But Eli knew that it was God. So Eli told Samuel what to do if it happened again. Eli said, "Next time, answer, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'"

After going back to bed, Samuel heard God's voice again. He said, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." God spoke to Samuel and told him many important things.

KEY POINTS: God hears our prayers. • We keep our promises to God. • Everything we have belongs to God.

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SNACK & CLOSING

Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Who spoke to Samuel while he was sleeping?
4. Who hears our prayers? God hears our prayers!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!

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