

38. Hannah in the Temple

The Word of the Lord: The Old Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

38. Hannah in the Temple

- a. Hannah and her husband Elkanah were good people. But she so wanted a child.
- b. It seems that her promise to give her child to the Lord was very hard, but in fact it meant he was a very special child.
- c. Note also that each year she went up to Jerusalem to bring a new robe to him, so he knew she loved him.
- d. Tell them that the name Samuel means “asked of God.”



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The Lord Listens to a Prayer

There was a certain woman called Hannah. She had no children and she was very sad, so sad that she would not eat or drink.

She went to the temple to pray to the Lord, and she was so sad in her heart that she was crying. She prayed to the Lord and made a promise to Him saying, “If you will remember me and give me a child, then I promise I will give him back to you to stay in the temple when he is older.”

Now there was in the temple a priest whose name was Eli. He saw Hannah as she was praying to the Lord. Hannah told him that she was sad because she had no children. Eli said to her, “Go in peace. The God of Israel will give you what you are asking of Him.” Then Hannah went back home, and she was not sad any longer.

And the Lord remembered her prayer and gave her a little boy. She called his name Samuel and said, “Because I have asked the Lord for him.” Then Hannah nursed her baby and looked after him.

When he was a young boy, she took him to Eli the priest and said, “I am the woman who came here and prayed for this child. The Lord has given me what I asked of Him. This is the child that I prayed for. Now I am giving him back to the Lord.”

Then Samuel stayed with Eli and helped him. His mother visited him every year and gave Samuel a new robe that she made for him.

And the Lord was with Hannah and she had three more sons and two daughters.

1 Samuel 1

