



All Hands on Deck

Jump In

In Biblical times, a woman's worth was determined by her ability to produce offspring—particularly a male heir. It was also believed at this time that a woman who could not conceive a child was barren because God had closed her womb for some reason. Therefore, Hannah's childlessness left her open to ridicule from others. Hannah's despair was deep. So, Hannah wanted a child. This was the desire of her heart, and she poured out this desire to God while she was in the temple. In some ways, Hannah's prayer for a child may seem to come from a selfish motive. Having a child would make her life easier by alleviating the ridicule. Hannah is even willing to promise to dedicate the child to God's service if it is a boy. Whatever her motives may have been, Hannah prayed sincerely to God about what was in her heart. We can learn from Hannah's example and pray to God about the things that are in our own hearts.

Dive Deeper Together

Read 1 Samuel 1 in the Deep Blue Kids Bible or Hannah Prays on page 110 in the Deep Blue Bible Storybook.

OR

Read "Hannah Prays": Hannah was very sad. She wanted to have a baby, but every year she wasn't able to get pregnant. People made fun of her for not being able to have a baby and that made her even sadder. One year, she went to the temple to pray and ask God for a baby boy. She prayed with her whole being and told God that if she could have a son, she would raise him in the temple so he could serve God. She prayed deeply and the priest, Eli, saw her. Eli went to Hannah. She told Eli she was praying to God because she was sad. Eli told her to go in peace and hoped God would answer her prayer. Hannah left the temple and, sure enough, she got pregnant with a baby! When the baby was born she named him Samuel, which means "I asked the LORD for him."

Grow Stronger Together

Hannah teaches us to trust God with the desires of our heart through praying with her whole body. Together, make up movements for the prayer below, then move and pray together.

Pray Together

Share joys and concerns, and then say this prayer: Dear God, help us to trust in your love for each of us. May we always come to you with the desires of our hearts. Amen.

Session 1

Unit 1: Judges and Kings

BV: "Speak. Your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)

AP: We listen to God.

Hannah Prays (1 Samuel 1)

Parents, read these verses before you read them to your children. There may be a word you aren't ready to use with your kids yet.

¡Hola! I'm Carlos. Welcome to Guatemala! I am so excited to show you around my church and to read Bible stories together! Learn more at www.deepbluekids.com/passport.

