

HANNAH

LESSON 2: GIVEN TO THE LORD

We can give our hearts to God and serve Him.

TOPICS

Samuel, Service

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 minutes)

Gift Pictures (Activity)

WORSHIP TIME (5 minutes)

BIBLE VERSE (5 minutes)

“Lord almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.” Psalm 84:12

Read the verse to the class and then instruct the children to stand in a circle with you. Explain to the class that “trust” means believing someone will do what they say they will do. Then say one word of the verse and bounce a tennis ball to a child. Next, he or she will repeat the word and bounce the ball back to you. Continue bouncing the ball to different children for each word, repeating the verse as desired. Lastly, encourage the class to try repeating the entire verse with you.

BIBLE STORY (15 minutes)

Introduction:

Samuel’s mother, Hannah, promised to give him to God before he was born. Samuel grew up in the temple where he learned to serve God. Then something strange happened one night as Samuel rested, and he received a special message to share.

Read 1 Samuel 1:27-28, 2:26, 3:1-14 & 19 (Samuel was given and chosen.)

Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Hannah give Samuel to the Lord? (Because she prayed for a son and God answered her prayer.)
2. Who helps Samuel learn about God? (Eli, the priest/church leader.)
3. What happens to Samuel? (He hears someone speaking to him during the night.)
4. Who does Samuel think is speaking to Him? (Eli.)
5. Who really is speaking to Samuel? (God.)
6. What does God tell Samuel? (That Eli’s family will be punished for their sins.)
7. Who does God choose instead to serve Him? (Samuel.)

Conclusion: Samuel was given to the Lord by His mother, and God chose him to replace Eli one day as the priest (church leader). God gave Samuel teachers so he would understand how to serve the Lord. Who teaches us how to serve the Lord (parents, teachers, pastors, etc.)? We can serve God by showing love to our family, friends, and neighbors. Jesus showed us His love

when He served God by dying on the cross for our sins. We can give our hearts to God by believing in Jesus and asking Him to forgive our sins.

FUN TIME (15 minutes)

Gift for God (Craft)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 minutes)

Name the Sound (Activity)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 minutes)

Lead the children in prayer and then pass out a healthy snack. While eating, talk to the children about how we show trust to others (believing they will do what they promised). For example, if we trust our parents, then we will obey them even when we don't want to. And if we trust our friends, we will share our toys with them. Likewise, if we know God keeps His promises, we can trust what the Bible says. Obeying God is a way we show our trust in Him.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Talk to the children about the different ways they can serve God with their hands, feet, and words. Ask the children to hold out their hands. Tell the class that our hands help give a sad friend a hug, finish chores at home, and they can even make crafts that share God's love. Then ask the children to march in place. Explain that our feet take us to church where we learn about God and to our neighbors who need a friend. Lastly, show the children how to cup their hands around their mouths to explain that kind words help others feel loved.

STORY TELLING TIPS

Story telling is an old age art that most any one can do. To become a really good storyteller takes practice. These tips will help you become a better storyteller.

When my child was a preschooler, she loved going to the library with me for story time. She sat quietly and listened to the storyteller as if she were one of the characters in the book the storyteller read. The children giggled, covered their eyes, and yelled in unison. They were excited about the story. Until my daughter attended story time, I did not realize how storytelling could be such a powerful medium to communicate with children. A great story can give a child a realistic picture right from his or her own imagination that lasts forever.

Storytelling can be done effectively through a range of visual and vocal emotions. You don't need to be highly experienced. You only need to read, use your imagination, and make funny, loud, or silly noises. Add some arm movements and face contortions and anyone can be a storytelling star.

The key is to really get into the story yourself as if you were hearing it for the first time as a small child. If you are really adventurous, not minding the adults that may be accompanying their children, you can even dance around the room in an animated fashion.



Children love to interact with the story, so whenever possible, ask the children to

take part in the storytelling. For example, children can make rain noises, or they can guess which animals oink and quack.

Change your voice's reflection - loud at times and soft at others, use different voices for different characters.

Storytelling is a great way to teach the children about Jesus without spending a lot of money on supplies or materials. Kid's Sunday School Place has many stories available for usage—all you need is yourself and your commitment to be silly in the name of the Lord.

Other items you can use for a great story time:

Faces of main characters or pictures of objects in the story can be drawn on paper and attached to wooden rulers. Display these props at the appropriate time while telling the story. For example, when you tell the story of Noah, use a paper face for Noah, Mrs. Noah, and an animal or two. These visuals will help keep the children's attention.

Bring a twin size blanket or comforter to place on the floor for the children to sit on. This will make them comfortable and feel like they are in a special setting.

IDEAS FOR MEMORIZING VERSES

- **MISSING WORDS**

Read the verse together several times, then write the verse on the board. Say the verse together as a class, erase a word or two and say the verse again. Continue in this manner until the words are all erased.

- **BIBLE VERSE HANGMAN**

With short verses play the "hangman" game. After one of the kids is able to say the verse correctly, have everyone look it up in their own Bibles.

- **READ, MEMORIZE, AND DISCUSS**

Have the kids find the verse in their Bibles and read it several times out loud. Have them close their eyes and try to say the verse again. Discuss the meaning of this verse with the children.

- **SCRAMBLED**

Give each child a slip of paper with the verse scrambled. Have the kids unscramble the verse and rewrite it the correct way. Treats can be given to all who get it right.