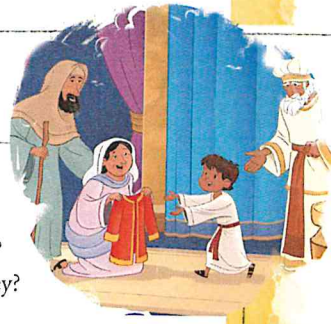


Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What did Hannah promise to do if God gave her a son? (*She committed Samuel to God.*)
- Share a few things about God that you could tell others.
- How does God speak to us today? How does this make you feel about reading the Bible?

Hannah and Samuel

1 Samuel 1-3

STORY POINT: GOD CALLED HANNAH'S SON TO SHARE GOD'S PLAN.

A man named Elkanah lived with his wife Hannah. Hannah was very sad because she did not have any children. Hannah wanted to have a family.

Elkanah and Hannah went to the tabernacle. Hannah prayed to God, "Lord, if You give me a son, I will dedicate him to You. He will serve You all of his life." God did answer her prayers. After some time, Hannah gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel. When Samuel was no longer a baby, Hannah left Samuel with Eli to serve God.

One night, Eli was in his bed and Samuel was lying in the tabernacle when Samuel heard someone call his name. Samuel ran to Eli. "Here I am; you called me."

But it wasn't Eli. He told Samuel to go back to bed. God called Samuel three times, and each time Samuel ran to Eli. Eli finally understood that God was calling to Samuel. He told Samuel how to respond.

Samuel went back to his place, and God called, "Samuel, Samuel!"

"Speak, for Your servant is listening," Samuel replied. God told Samuel that He was going to judge Eli's family for their sin.

The next day, Samuel was afraid to tell Eli what God had said. Eli asked Samuel to tell him what God said, so Samuel did. As Samuel grew, God was with him. God used Samuel to share His plan with the nation of Israel.

Christ Connection: Samuel used God's words to tell the people what God is like. John 1:1 says that Jesus is the Word. Jesus—the Son of God—told the world about God's plan and showed what God is like.

