

WEEK of November 7 & 10
PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN
LESSON GUIDE



Kids love to be in the kitchen. They may even love helping prepare something delicious! Having a plan or a recipe usually helps, too. Just like having a plan in the kitchen helps the meal we hope to enjoy, the stories of the Old Testament prophets are like a cookbook that helped people prepare for the Savior that God would send one day. Even though there's no exact recipe, kids will find that they can prepare themselves for a loving relationship with God when they 1) trust God, 2) talk to God, 3) listen to God, and 4) leave the results to God. We will miss the first lesson about trusting God but we can always tell kids they can trust God no matter what!

THE BIG IDEA

Step Two - Talk to God.

THE BIBLE

Hannah Prays for a Baby:
1 Samuel 1:4-20

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Brown Bag Challenge, Supplies needed: brown lunch bags, mystery supplies in bags.

- Let's have a brown bag challenge! Maybe you've had lunch packed in a brown bag before. You may have even had a brown bag filled with yummy surprises. These bags have food surprises in them. I wonder if you can guess what they are!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Prepare the mystery bags according to the instructions in the Shop & Prep List. Have the kids, one at a time, choose a bag. Open the bag for them and allow them to put their hand in the bag to see if they can guess what it is just by touching it. Have an adult or student leader nearby to ask questions as needed to help the children guess what their item might be. After a few minutes, pull the item from the bag and see if they were correct. Continue play until all of the bags have been explored.*
- That was a little tricky trying to guess what was in the bag! Having [name of adult or student leader] to talk to and ask questions helped a ton!

Transition Music!

TEACHING TIME

BIBLE STORY | Hannah Prays for a Baby, Supplies needed: baby doll and heart cut out.

- Are you guys ready to tune in to the Bible story segment of The Plate It Cooking Show?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read or summarize today's Bible story from 1 Samuel 1:4–20. Prepare a large cutout of a heart and a baby doll.*
- **Who knows what a prophet is?** A prophet was someone chosen by God to speak for God to the people who needed to hear God's message.
- Today, we're going to hear about a prophet, but first we are going to learn about his mom.
- There was a woman named Hannah. Hannah was being teased because she couldn't have a baby. This made Hannah very, very sad.
- **What does a sad face look like?**
- Because the teasing went on for so long, Hannah began to cry and not eat!
- **Can you pretend to cry?**
- Hannah began to pray for a baby, a son.
- The Bible tells us that Hannah prayed to God in her heart. Her lips were moving but no one could hear the words. Only God could. This is what Hannah prayed:
 - *[Cover your face with the heart cutout.]* "God I am so sad and hurt. Please remember me and answer my prayer. If you give me a son, I promise he will serve you and do your work his whole life!"
- The person in charge at the temple was a priest named Eli. Eli asked Hannah why she was crying. When Hannah told him, he told her that God had heard her prayer.
- So, Hannah was no longer sad after praying to God!
- **Can you show me your best happy face?**
- The Bible then tells us that after a while, God heard Hannah's prayers and gave her a baby! *[Pass around baby doll.]* She named him Samuel, which means, "God heard."
- Just like Samuel's name, God heard Hannah's prayers when she talked to God about her problems!

BIG IDEA | Step two, talk to God, Supplies needed: paper plate with the Big Idea written on it.

- Today's Big Idea is: **Step two, talk to God.**

VIDEO | Plate It, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's video*

ACTIVITY | Talking Takes Time, Supplies needed: Shrink art, toaster oven, markers, hot mitts.

- **How do we talk to God?** Yes, by praying!

- **Does God answer right away?** Sometimes, but a lot of times, we have to wait patiently for God to answer. But it's not because God isn't listening.
- God might want us to wait because God knows exactly when the perfect time for our prayers is to be answered.
- Today's activity is going to show us what it's like to wait for something good!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Distribute the printable printed on shrink paper and have kids color it in with markers or colored pencils. Help them write their names on the back and cut out the shape. Place one sheet at a time in the toaster (or two if you have a second rack), until you see the paper curling up then settling down. Remove from the toaster and set aside to cool. If possible, have a volunteer do this on the side and return everyone's shrunken pictures before they leave.*
- We really want this treat back to us right away, but we must wait if we want things to turn out the way they're supposed to.
- First, we must trust God, and we can trust God no matter what! Next, we need to follow **step two, talk to God**. And when we talk to God, we still have to trust God even when things take time.

DISCUSSION TIME

ACTIVITY | Special Order, Supplies needed: baker hats, markers

INSTRUCTIONS: *Give each child a chef's hat and have the kids color it. Have them write (with your assistance, "Talk to God" on the hat.*

- God knows what we need even when we *don't* ask! But it's important that we ask anyway because talking to God is what helps us know God more.
- What did Hannah talk to God about?
- What did Hannah promise she would do if God gave her a baby?
- Did God answer Hannah's prayer?

MEMORY VERSE | Ephesians 2:10 (NIV), Supplies needed: paper plate with memory verse on each plate.

INSTRUCTIONS: *Point out the memory verse on the paper plate and repeat it together. Trace the children's hands on the plates (Kindergarten may be able to do this themselves) and have them say, "I am God's handiwork. I can use my hands to pray.*

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Sky Ball, Supplies needed: balloon or small ball

This game encourages kids to continuously give up the ball. Give each child a number.

- Throw the ball into the air and call out one of the numbers.
- That child must run into the middle of the circle and catch the ball.
- They then must call out another number and that child will have a turn catching the ball.

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page, Supplies needed: coloring page, markers

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse. For added fun, keep their coloring pages each week, and at the end of the month, bind them together to create a coloring page "recipe book" they can take home!*

ACTIVITY | Restaurant Race, Supplies needed: aprons, toy plates, utensils, play food, small notepads, crayons.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up an area with aprons, toy plates, utensils, play food, small notepads, and crayons. Have kids take turns pretending to be servers, cooks, and customers at a restaurant. See how quickly the servers and cooks can prepare the orders.*

ACTIVITY | Are You Praying?

- Hannah talked to God and we can talk to God, too. Let's sing a song to help us remember today's Big Idea.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Teach the children the following finger play, sung to the tune of "Frère Jacques".*
- **What is** (hold hands out to the side) **step two** (hold up two fingers), **What is** (hold hands out to the side) **step two** (hold up two fingers)
- **Talk to** (cup hands around mouth) **God** (point up), **Talk to** (cup hands around mouth) **God** (point up)
- **God is** (point up) **always listening** (cup hand to ear), **God is** (point up) **always listening** (cup hand to ear)
- **When we pray** (bring hands together), **When we pray** (bring hands together)

PRAYER and BLESSING

Dear God, thank you for being so easy to talk to. You never stop listening to us! Help us remember that we can trust you and talk to you anywhere, anytime, and about anything. Amen.

Trace the sign of the cross on each child's forehead and say, "You can trust God, and God is always listening because God loves you."

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.