Samuel

“Hannah”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

* The story of Hannah
* The story of Samuel being called by God
* The story of Saul becoming king
* The story of David and Goliath

Series Theme Verse: “He guards the paths of his faithful servants.” – 1 Samuel 2:9

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of Hannah and the importance of prayer.

Lesson Passage: 1 Samuel 1:1-20, 26-28 (Feel free to edit content to fit the ears...i.e. “drunk” “made love” etc.)

Materials Needed: Bibles, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points:

* What is the name of the man we meet at the first of this story? (Elkanah)
* Was Elkanah married? (Yes, he had two wives)
  + Be prepared for the question of why two wives was okay.
* What were the names of his wives? (Hannah and Peninnah)
* Did Elkanah have children with both wives? (Peninnah had given him children, but Hannah was barren, or could not have children)
* Was Elkanah a faithful worshipper of God? (Yes, he went yearly to sacrifice/worship in the temple)
* From the sacrifice, how did Elkanah divide the meat with his wives? (He would give Hannah a double portion)
* Why? (Because he loved her and she was barren)
* How is Peninnah described? (As a rival to Hannah, provoking Hannah to tears and refusal to eat)
* How did Elkanah respond when Hannah would cry and refuse to eat? (Why cry? Aren’t I more important to you than having sons?)
* After visiting the temple and eating one day, what did Hannah do? (She prayed and made a vow to the Lord)
* What was the vow? (Lord, give me a son and I will give him to you)
* Eli was the high priest of Shiloh, what did he think when he saw Hannah praying? (She was drunk)
* Why? (She was praying in her heart, but her lips were moving with no words coming out)
* What did Eli say to Hannah? (Don’t drink, sober up!)
* What did Hannah say to Eli? (I am not drunk, I am deeply troubled and I am pouring my soul out to God)
* Did that satisfy Eli? (Yes, he told her to go in peace and blessed her that God would give her what she had asked for)
* As a result of this experience, was Hannah still crying and refusing to eat? (No, she ate and was no longer distressed)
* What did the family do before leaving for home? (They worshipped)
* Did the Lord respond to Hannah? (Yes, she became pregnant and gave birth to a son)
* What was the son named? (Samuel, “Heard by God”)
* Did Hannah make good on her vow? (Yes, after Samuel was weaned, Hannah took him to Shiloh and gave him to Eli, reminding him of the vow she had made when he had seen her so long ago and accused her of being drunk)
* As Samuel grew, away from his family, what did he do? (Worshiped the Lord)

The Story Retold:

* Hannah’s story of faith is built on prayer.
* Help students understand that prayer is our way of talking with God.
* Tell them that you are going to practice praying by doing “Popcorn Prayers.”
* You will start the Popcorn Prayer and let them fill in the blank.
* For example, “Dear Jesus, thank you for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* Use several popcorn prayers, encouraging students to participate.
  + “Dear Jesus, please keep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ safe.”
  + “Dear Jesus, help me to love \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ better.”
  + There are numerous opportunities/prayers.
* After praying, trace each child’s hand on a piece of construction paper.
* Ask each child what they pray for and write those items on each finger.
* The hands can be cut out if time permits.

The Story and Me:

* Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
* Have the students read the verse together.
* Explain to students that God wants us to trust him, just like Hannah did.
  + Ask students in what ways Hannah trusted God.
* Give students an example of how you trust God.
* Say the verse in groups (boys, girls, white shoes, etc) to begin memorizing the verse.