



STORY

6/9/06

Samuel - 1 Samuel 1-7

TEACHER PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You who are the source of all true wisdom, be with me as I teach these children the material contained in this lesson. Help me to present the truths that You would have them learn in such a way that they will keep them in their hearts and apply them to their lives so that their faith in our gracious God may grow. Keep us all trusting for forgiveness and eternal life in our Savior, Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. Amen.

VOCABULARY

ephah - a measure holding just over three-fourths bushel

horn - strength

abhor - detest, be disgusted by

ephod - a vest with an onyx stone on each shoulder, the names of six of the sons of Israel engraved on each.

cherubim - the golden angels at either end of the ark

tumult - uproar made by a crowd

Dagon - Philistine idol with the face, hands and upper parts of the body of a man; the lower parts tapered into the tail of a fish.

tumors - possibly a symptom of bubonic plague which is spread by the fleas on rats.

diviners - fortune-tellers

consecrated - set apart, usually for sacred purposes

OUTER AIM

God provided a son for Hannah and, in the same person, a new spiritual leader for Israel.

INNER AIM

God still provides for the spiritual needs of His people by sending faithful pastors and teachers. We are to accept them and to reject the false pastors and teachers.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References, Vol. I, pp. 270-277)

For about 450 years after Joshua's death, Israel was a theocracy, ruled by God through the law which He had given His people. However, the people often forgot about God and His will and worshipped heathen idols. God would send enemies to invade their land and afflict them. When they remembered God,

repented of their sin and asked God for help, He would send someone, a judge, to lead them against the enemy and free the people from foreign rule. Samuel was the last of the judges. He led the people back to the worship of the true God.

Chapter 1

vs. 1-7 Elkanah, Samuel's father, had two wives. Penninah had children. Hannah did not. Hannah was loved by her husband. Jealousy led Penninah to taunt Hannah about her not having children.

vs. 8-13 Grief over her childlessness caused Hannah to pour out her misery to the Lord at the tabernacle. She promised that if God gave her a son, she would give him to the service of God. She prayed silently, only her lips moved.

vs. 14-18 Eli, the priest, jumped to the conclusion that Hannah was drunk. He scolded her. Hannah protested that she had drunk nothing. She was only bringing her grief to the Lord. Eli realized his mistake and encouraged her to believe that God would give her what she had asked.

vs. 19-23 In due time, Hannah bore a son and called him Samuel. Hannah did not go to the yearly sacrifice. She said she would remain at home until Samuel was weaned. Then she would take him to the priest and leave him there.

vs. 24-28 When the time came, Hannah took her son and sacrifices with her to the house of the Lord. After the sacrifices were offered, Hannah brought Samuel to Eli. She explained that she was the woman who had been praying in the tabernacle. God had answered her prayer for a son. Now she was leaving him to the Lord for the rest of his life.

Chapter 2

vs. 1-11 Hannah sings praises to God and rejoices in the salvation He provides. She especially mentions God's justice in dealing with people.

vs. 12-17 The sons of Eli, the priest, were very wicked. They made a mockery of the offerings by taking the best meat for themselves. They greatly offended the worshipers.

vs. 18-21 Each year Hannah would bring her son a new robe when she came to worship. Eli blessed her and her husband. The Lord gave Hannah three sons and two daughters.

vs. 22-26 Eli's sons continued in their wicked ways. Eli scolded them but they would not listen. Samuel grew and found favor with God and man.

vs. 27-36 A man of God pointed out to Eli the sad state of affairs in the priestly office. He warned that punishment would come upon Eli's family. The sign would be the death of Eli's two sons on the same day. Then God would raise up a faithful priest.

Chapter 3

vs. 1-14 The Lord came to Samuel at night and revealed to him that He would release His wrath upon Eli and his sons because of the wickedness that Eli did not stop.

vs. 15-18 Samuel was afraid to tell Eli what God told him. Eli persuaded him to talk and accepted God's judgment as revealed to him by Samuel.

vs. 19-4:1 Samuel grew and the people realized that he was a prophet of the Lord. God spoke through Samuel.

Chapter 4

vs. 2-5 Israel was defeated in battle by the Philistines. Without consulting God, the Israelites decided to take the ark of the covenant with them for the next battle as a good luck charm. When the ark came into the camp, the soldiers of Israel shouted loudly.

vs. 6-10 The Philistines were terrified when they learned that the ark was in the Israelite camp. They knew what God had done for the Israelites in Egypt. With little hope of winning, they went into battle and won a decisive victory over the Israelites. They captured the ark and killed Eli's two sons.

vs. 11-18 A messenger brought Eli the news that the Israelites had been badly defeated, the ark had been lost and his two sons had been killed. Eli fell backward from his seat and died of a broken neck.

vs. 19-22 After hearing the news that the ark had been captured and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, the wife of Phinehas gave birth to a son. Before she, too, died, she named her son, Ichabod, meaning, "The glory has departed."

Chapter 5

vs. 1-5 The captured ark was taken to Ashdod and placed in the temple of Dagon, the fish-man god of the Philistines. Two days in a row the idol was found face-down before the ark, the second day with its head and hands broken off.

vs. 6-12 The people of Ashdod felt God's wrath. They were stricken with tumors. The ark was moved to Gath where the people suffered the same calamities. From there it was taken to Ekron with the same deadly results.

Chapter 6

vs. 1-6 The desperate Philistines wanted to send the ark back to Israel. Their wise men told them to send an offering along with it, five golden tumors and five golden rats (mice).

vs. 7-12 A new cart was made to carry the ark. Two untrained milk cows were hitched to the cart. Their calves were taken away from them. The cows' natural reaction would be to refuse to pull the cart and to stay near their calves. If they would take the road to the land of Israel, it would be a sign that God had

caused the evil to the Philistines. If they refused to leave their calves, the evil was by chance alone. The cows headed straight for Israel and did not turn aside. The lords of the Philistines followed to see what would happen.

vs. 13-16 When the cart reached Beth Shemesh in Israel, the people rejoiced to see the ark. They chopped up the cart and sacrificed the cows as a burnt offering to the Lord. The Philistine rulers returned home.

vs. 17-7:1 The golden tumors were a trespass offering, one for each of the five chief Philistine cities. There was a golden rat for each of the cities and villages of the Philistines. The Lord killed some of the men of Beth Shemesh for looking into the ark. (The reading of the Hebrew is difficult and perhaps means that of the 50,000 men in the area, God struck 70.) The men of Beth Shemesh were afraid and didn't want to keep the ark. They asked the men of Kirjath Jearim to take it. They did.

Chapter 7

vs. 2-4 Samuel carried out a reformation. He persuaded the people to put away the worship of heathen idols.

vs. 5-8 Samuel called the people to Mizpah for a service of repentance. The Philistines mistook the gathering as the preparation for attacking them.

vs. 9-12 A sacrifice was offered by Samuel. He prayed for the Lord to help them. The Lord sent a tremendous thunderstorm which confused the Philistines. The Israelites attacked and God gave them a great victory. Samuel set up a memorial stone and called it Ebenezer, "So far the Lord has helped us."

STUDENT PRAYER

Dear heavenly Father, You have given us Your Word. By it You guide us to live lives pleasing to You. You lead us to believe in your Son Jesus Christ as our Savior from sin and eternal damnation. As You gave the Israelites a faithful teacher in Samuel, so give us faithful pastors and teachers to teach what we should believe and do according to Your Word. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRESENTATION

God gives His people what they need. He does it in His way and when He thinks it best. The Israelites had been turning away from God to worship heathen idols. This was due in part to the weakness of Eli and the wickedness of his sons, Phinehas and Hophni. God began to prepare for a new religious leader by answering Hannah's prayer for a son. When Samuel was old enough, he went to live with Eli. In this way God arranged to have Samuel trained for his work as a priest and a judge. God spoke to Samuel and revealed that He would punish Eli and his family for their unfaithfulness.

God used the Philistines to bring about the change in religious leadership. They defeated the Israelites in

battle and captured the ark of the covenant. Eli's sons were killed in battle. Eli died from a fall when he heard that the ark had been lost. The Lord caused so much death and misery among the Philistines that they returned the ark seven months later. Samuel led the people of Israel to repent of their sins and the Lord gave them a great victory over the Philistines. Samuel was a faithful priest and judge until he died.

APPLICATION

Our Savior prayed to His heavenly Father, "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." It is absolutely necessary that people know about, and be led to believe in, the true God and His Son Jesus. Anyone who interferes with such knowledge and faith angers God. Such was the case of Eli and his sons. God knew what would happen and planned years ahead how He would remove them and provide a new spiritual leader for His people.

The world has not changed. Unfaithful pastors and teachers are common. God has provided the means by which people may protect themselves from such false teachers. He has given us His Word, the Bible, by which we learn what is true. By comparing what we hear and read with what Scripture says, we can tell the right from the wrong. We are to support what is according to Scripture. We are to flee that which is contrary to Scripture. We pray that the Lord would provide us with faithful pastors and teachers.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Ps. 1:6 - The Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Ps. 50:15 - Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you shall glorify Me.

Matt. 21:22 - All things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.

John 17:3 - This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Col. 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

HYMN CHOICES

Before Jehovah's Awe-full Throne - TLH #13

The Lord hath Helped Me Hitherto - TLH #33

Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth - TLH 296

The Man Is Ever Blest - TLH #414

God Moves in a Mysterious Way - TLH #514

Samuel

1 Samuel 1-7

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

There was a woman named Hannah who had no children. She was very sad.

One time Hannah was in the temple or church and prayed to the LORD for a son. Hannah promised to give that son back to the LORD so that he would live and work in the temple. She prayed in her heart but her lips were moving. Eli, the priest, thought she had drunk too much wine.

She told Eli that she had prayed to the LORD. Eli said, "Go in peace, and God grant your prayer which you have asked of Him."

Hannah's prayer was answered and she had a son, Samuel. When he was old enough to live apart from her, she brought him to Eli. Samuel was young when he went to live in the temple.

Every year Hannah would bring a new coat for Samuel. The LORD blessed Hannah with other children. Samuel grew up in the temple.

Eli the priest had two sons who were also priests. These sons were wicked and disobeyed God and cheated God's people. Eli did not try to stop these wicked sons.

One night while Eli and Samuel were sleeping the LORD called, "Samuel." Samuel ran to Eli's room and said to him, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." Samuel went and lay down.

Then the LORD called again two more times and each time Samuel went into Eli.

After the third time Eli knew that the LORD had called Samuel. Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down and if the LORD calls you say, 'Speak, for Your servant hears.'"

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD called, "Samuel!"

Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Then the LORD told Samuel that Eli and his sons would die because Samuel did not correct his sons when they were evil. Samuel was afraid to tell Eli. But when Samuel did tell Eli, Eli said that God would do what is best.

The wicked sons of Eli were killed in a war and Eli died when he heard this sad news.

Samuel grew up and was a faithful prophet of God. He told God's people the words of the LORD.

Passage

Luke 11:28 - "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

Hymn - TLH #296 v. 1

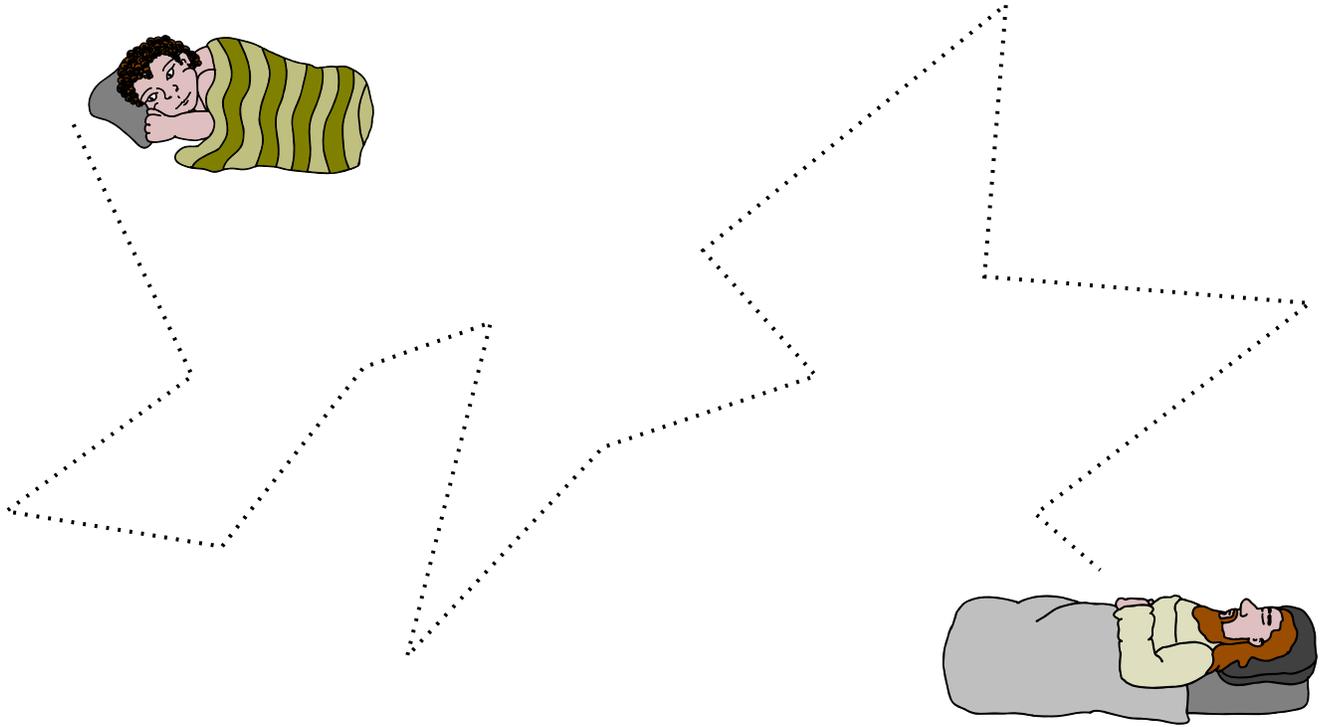
Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth,
To Thy Word I now give heed;
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth,
All Thy Word is true indeed.
Death's dread pow'r in me is rife;
Jesus, may Thy Word of Life
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor
That I cling to Thee forever.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, Help me to obey my parents, pastor, teacher and all those whom You have placed over me. Thank You for dying for me and giving me my saving faith. Amen.

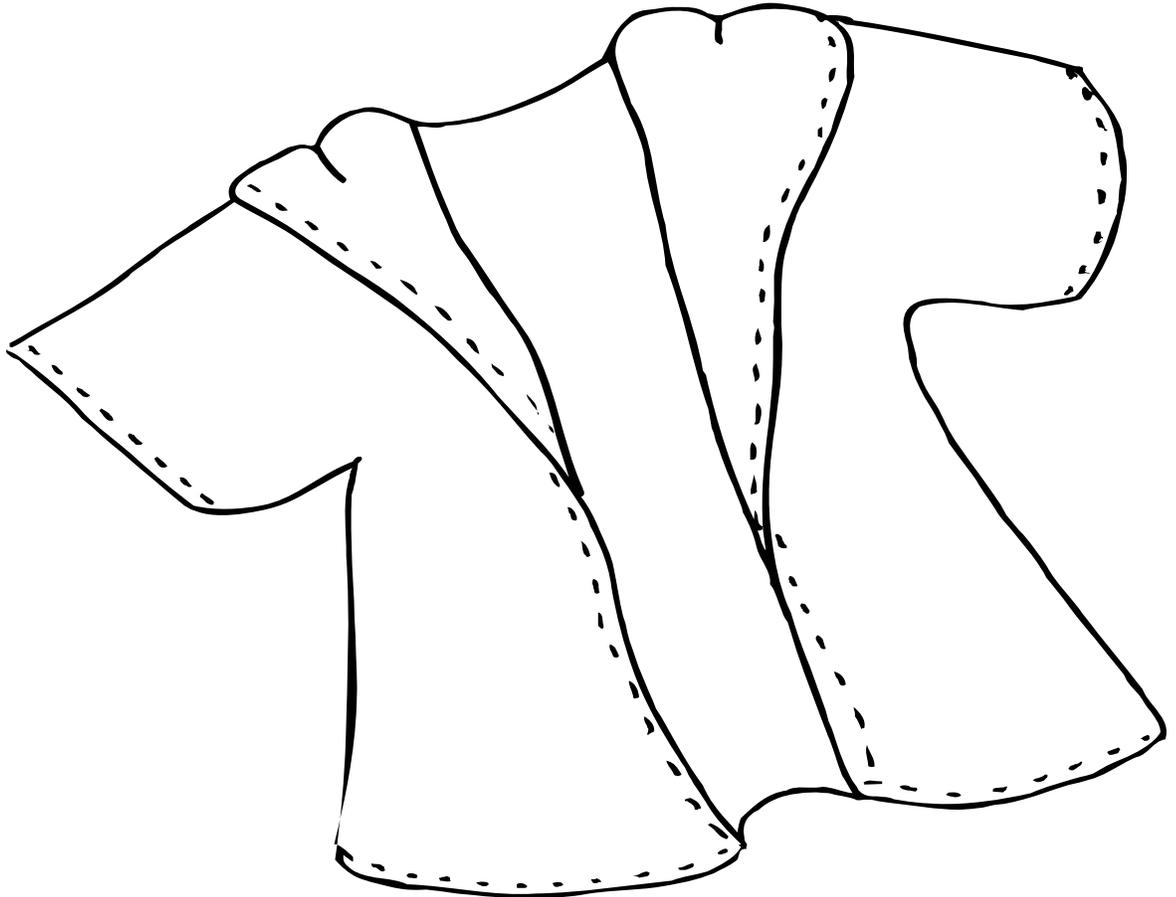


Classroom Activity - Trace the dots and help Samuel get to Eli.



Classroom Art Activity -

Decorate the coat for Samuel. You may want to enlarge the coat to fill a page.





God provided Samuel, a spiritual leader for Israel.

God still provides His people with faithful spiritual leaders.

Samuel

1 Samuel 1-7



The Story

There was a man who had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

One time Hannah was in the temple and prayed to the LORD for a son. Hannah promised to give that son back to the LORD so that he would live and work in the temple. She prayed in her heart but her lips were moving. Eli, the priest, thought she had drunk too much wine.

She told Eli that she had prayed to the LORD. Eli said, "Go in peace, and God grant your prayer which you have asked of Him."

Hannah's prayer was answered and she had a son, Samuel. When he was old enough to live apart from her, she brought him to Eli. Samuel was young when he went to live in the temple.

Every year Hannah would bring a new coat for Samuel. The LORD blessed Hannah with other children. Samuel grew up in the temple.

Eli had two sons who were priests. These sons were wicked and disobeyed God and cheated God's people. Eli did not try to stop these wicked sons.

One night while Eli and Samuel were sleeping the LORD called, "Samuel." Samuel ran to Eli's room and said to him, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." Samuel went and lay down.

Then the LORD called again two more times and each time Samuel went

into Eli.

After the third time Eli knew that the LORD had called Samuel. Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down and if the LORD calls you say, 'Speak, for Your servant hears.' "

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Then the LORD told Samuel that Eli and his sons would die because of they did not love God above all other things. Samuel was afraid to tell Eli. But when Samuel did tell Eli, Eli said that God would do what is best.

Samuel grew up and was a faithful prophet of God. He told God's people the words of the LORD.

The wicked sons of Eli were killed in a war and Eli died when he heard this sad news.

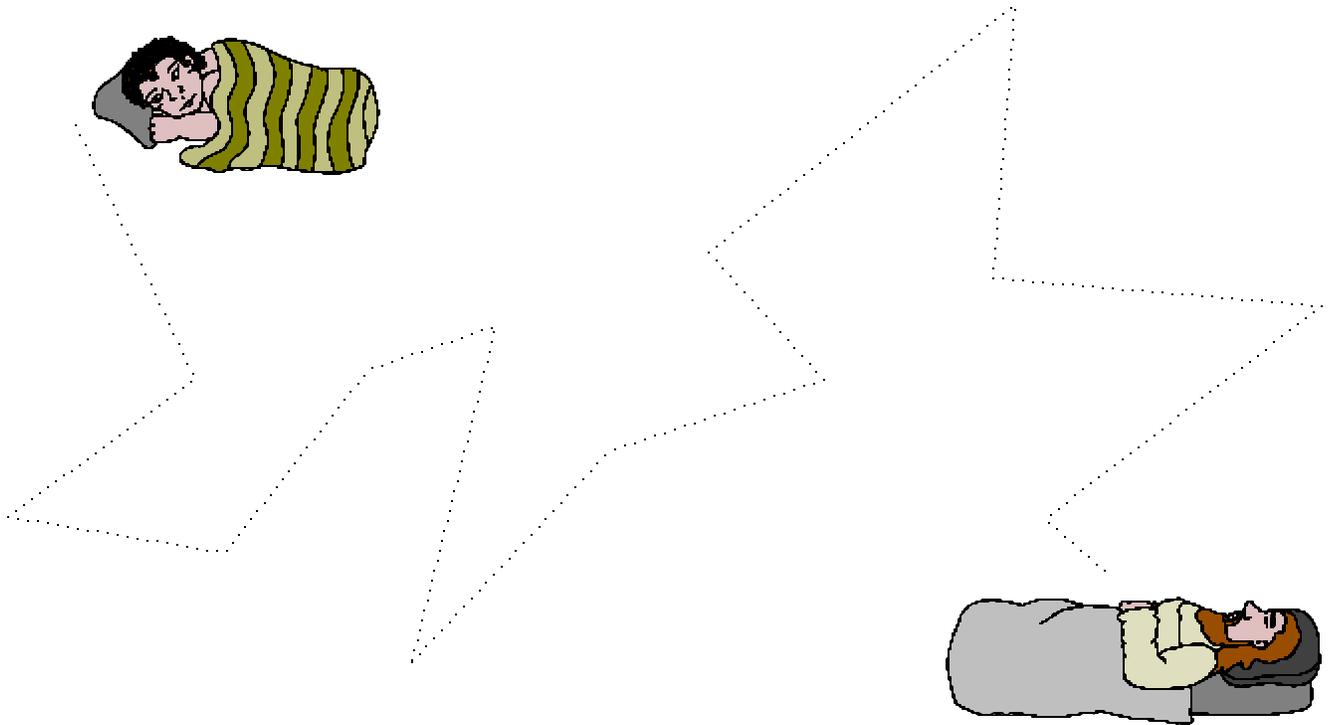
God's special ark of the covenant was taken by these enemies. They soon returned it because they had become very sick and many of these enemies died.

Samuel was a faithful leader of God's people. He told the people the Word of the LORD.

God provided Samuel, a spiritual leader for Israel.

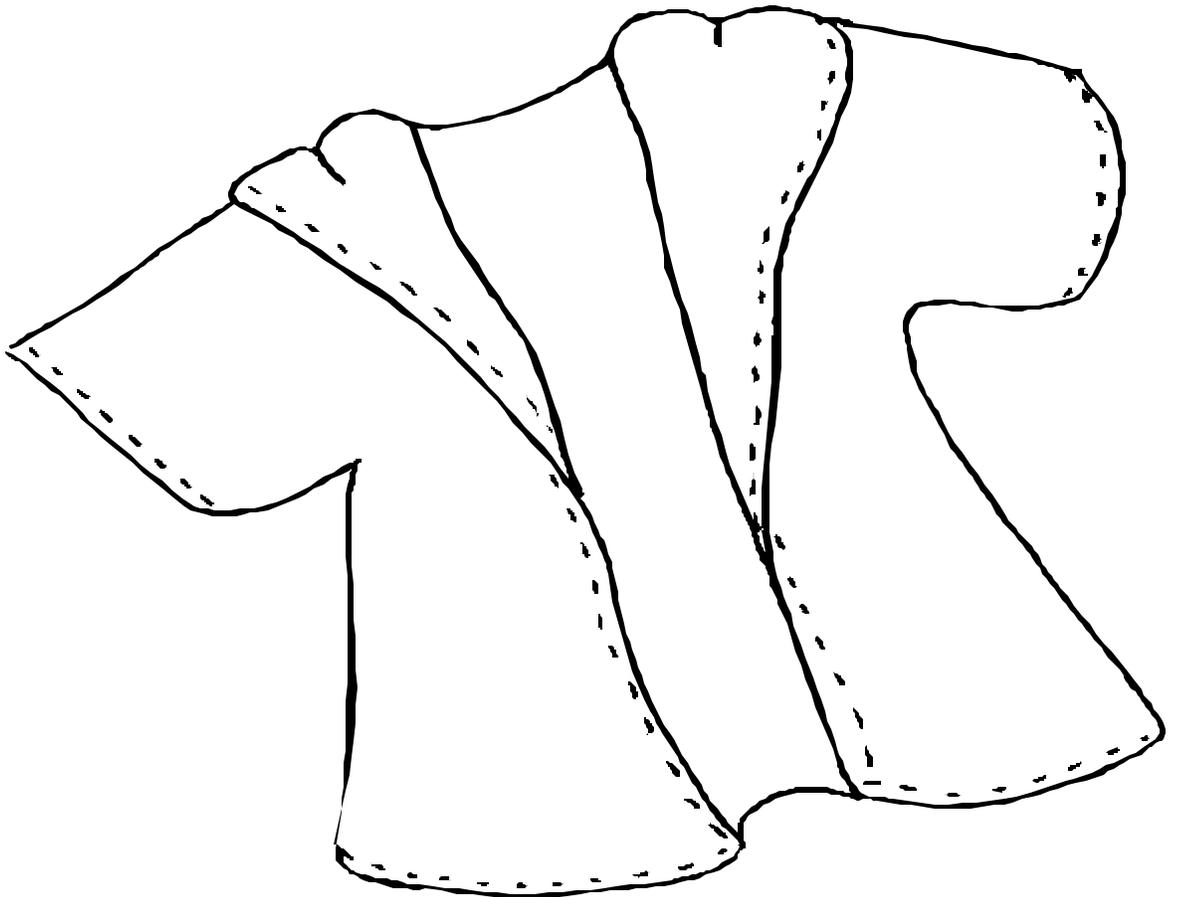
God still provides His people with faithful spiritual leaders.

Activity One - Trace the dots and help Samuel get to Eli.



Activity Two -

Decorate the coat for Samuel.



Passage - Fill in the blanks of the Bible passage with the correct words. One letter is given.

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who h _ _ _ the
w _ _ _ of G _ _ and keep it!"

hear

word

God

Hymn TLH #296 v. 1

Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth,
To Thy Word I now give heed;
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth,
All Thy Word is true indeed.
Death's dread pow'r in me is rife;
Jesus, may Thy Word of Life
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor
That I cling to Thee forever.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Help me to obey my parents, pastor, teacher and all those whom You have placed over me. Thank You for dying for me and giving me my saving faith. Amen.

Samuel

1 Samuel 1-7



The Story

There was a man, Elkanah, who had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

One time Hannah was in the temple and prayed to the LORD for a son. Hannah promised to give that son back to the LORD so that he would live and work in the temple. She prayed in her heart but her lips were moving. Eli, the priest, thought she had drunk too much wine.

She told Eli that she had prayed to the LORD. Eli said, "Go in peace, and God grant your prayer which you have asked of Him."

Hannah's prayer was answered and she had a son, Samuel. When he was old enough to live apart from her, she brought him to Eli. Samuel was young when he went to live in the temple.

Every year Hannah would bring a new coat for Samuel. The LORD blessed Hannah with other children. Samuel grew up in the temple.

Eli had two sons who were priests. These sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were wicked and disobeyed God and cheated God's people. Eli did not try to stop these wicked sons.

One night while Eli and Samuel were sleeping the LORD called, "Samuel." Samuel ran to Eli's room and said to him, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." Samuel went and lay down.

Then the LORD called again two

more times and each time Samuel went into Eli.

After the third time Eli knew that the LORD had called Samuel. Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down and if the LORD calls you say, 'Speak, for Your servant hears.' "

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Then the LORD told Samuel that Eli and his sons would die because of they did not love God above all other things. Samuel was afraid to tell Eli. But when Samuel did tell Eli, Eli said that God would do what is best.

Samuel grew up and was a faithful prophet of God. He told God's people the words of the LORD.

The wicked sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed in a war with the enemy Philistines. Eli fell over and died when he heard this sad news. He was old.

God's special ark of the covenant was taken by these enemies. They soon returned it because they had become very sick and many of these enemies died.

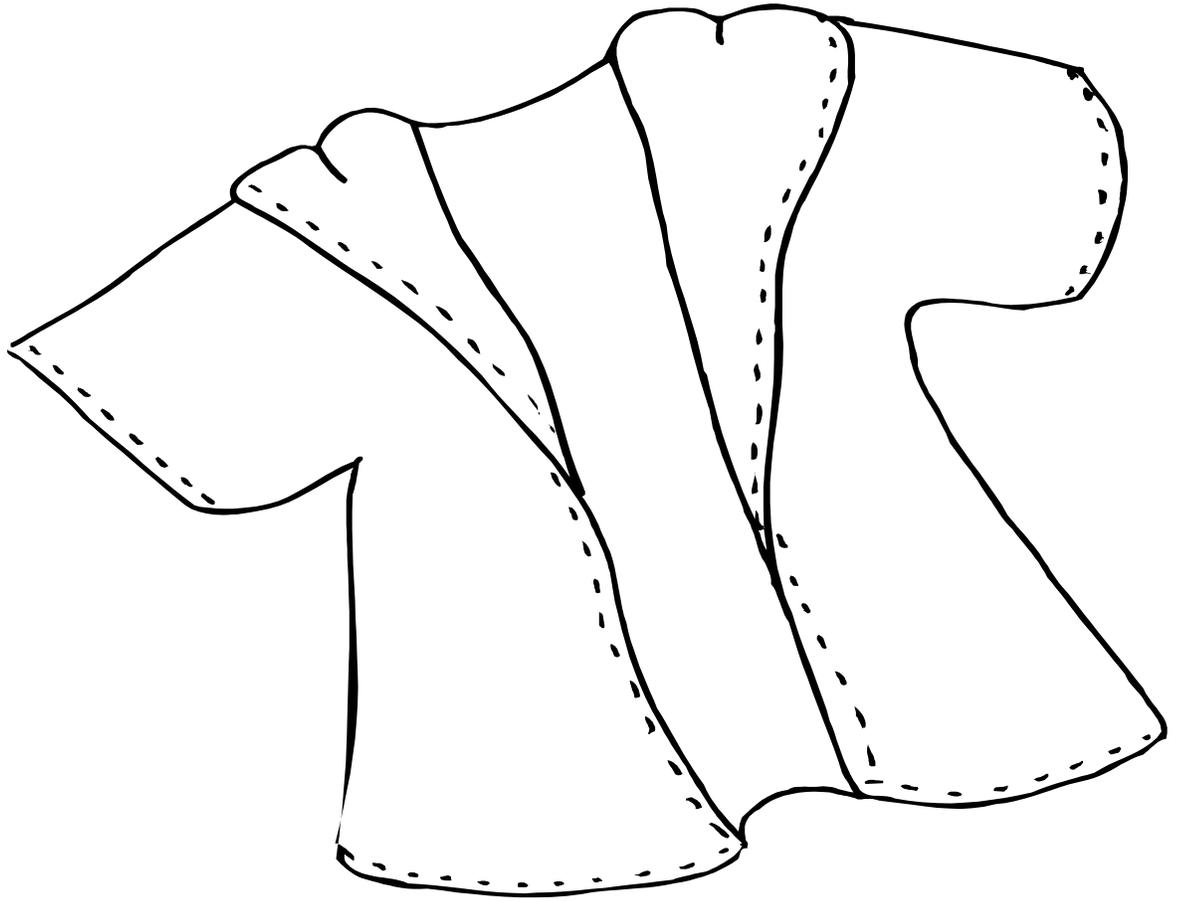
Samuel was a faithful leader of God's people. He told the people the Word of the LORD.

God provided Samuel, a spiritual leader for Israel.

Activity

One -

Decorate the coat for Samuel.



Activity Two - Draw lines to match the people to their description.

Hannah ●

Elkanah ●

Eli ●

Samuel ●

Hophni and Phinehas ●

Philistines ●

● the faithful prophet of God

● the wicked sons of Eli

● Samuel's mother

● the enemies of God's people

● the priest in the temple

● Samuel's father

God still provides His people with faithful spiritual leaders.

Passages - Fill in the blanks of the Bible passages with the correct words. One letter is given.

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who h _ _ _ the
w _ _ _ of G _ _ and keep it!"

God	word	hear
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Colossians 3:20 - C _ _ _ _ _ , obey your
p _ _ _ _ _ in all things, for this is well pleasing
to the L _ _ _ .

Lord	parents	Children
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Hymn - TLH #296 v. 1

Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth,
To Thy Word I now give heed;
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth,
All Thy Word is true indeed.
Death's dread pow'r in me is rife;
Jesus, may Thy Word of Life
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor
That I cling to Thee forever.

Prayer

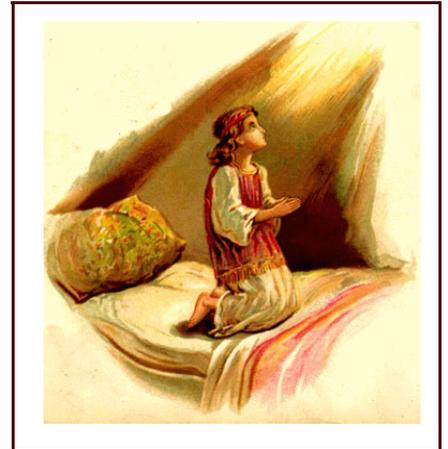
Dear Jesus,

Help me to obey my parents, pastor, teacher and all those whom You have placed over me. Thank You for dying for me and giving me my saving faith. Amen.

Samuel

1 Samuel 1 - 7

*Have you heard of Samuel?
Do you know what is happening in this picture of him?
He would grow up to be a great prophet of the LORD.
Let's read now about Samuel, God's prophet.*



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Be with us as we study the lesson of Samuel. Help us to learn from Your Word so that we can grow up to serve You as Samuel did. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Story

A man by the name of Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children, which made her very sad.

Elkanah went yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD in Shiloh. On one of these temple visits Hannah prayed to the LORD and made a vow saying, "O LORD, if You will look on me in my sadness and will give me a son, I will give him to You all the days of his life."

Hannah spoke in her heart, but her lips moved and Eli the priest of the temple thought she was drunk. Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk?"

Hannah answered, "No, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I am not drunk, but have poured out my soul before the LORD."

Then Eli said, "Go in peace, and God grant your prayer which you have asked of Him."

Hannah and Elkanah returned to their house at Ramah. Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son, Samuel.

Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice but Hannah did not go along until Samuel was old enough to live

without her nursing him.

Now when he was old enough, Hannah took him up with her, along with an offering, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh. They brought the child, Samuel, to Eli. Hannah said, "I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD for this child. The LORD has answered my prayer and I have lent him to the LORD for as long as he lives."

Hannah then said a prayer of praise. From then on Samuel lived in the temple and helped Eli the priest.

The sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were also priests but they were corrupt. They did not love and obey the LORD, but sinned against the people and the work of the temple. The sin of these young men was very great before the LORD.

But Samuel ministered before the LORD, even as a child. He wore a special linen skirt and every year Hannah would make him a robe and bring it to him as she came to make the yearly sacrifice with Elkanah. The LORD was with Hannah so that she also gave birth to three sons and two daughters.

Meanwhile the child Samuel grew before



the LORD. Now Eli was very old; and he heard all the sinful things his sons did to all Israel, but he did not try very hard to stop them from sinning.

One night, while Eli was lying down in his room and Samuel was lying down in his room, the LORD called Samuel. Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." Samuel went and lay down.

Then the LORD called again, "Samuel!" So Samuel went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

The LORD called Samuel again the third time. Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you did call me."

Then Eli knew that the LORD had called Samuel. Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down and if He calls you say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.'"

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Then the LORD told Samuel about the judgment the LORD would send on Eli and his family for the sins of Hophni and Phinehas. So Samuel lay down and was afraid to tell Eli the vision.

Then Eli called Samuel and said, "What is the word that the Lord spoke to you? Please do not hide it from me."

Then Samuel told him everything, and Eli said, "It is the LORD. Let Him do what seems good to Him."

So Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and the people listened to his words from the LORD. And all Israel knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of the LORD.

Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines and were defeated by them.

The Israelites said, "Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies."

So the people sent to Shiloh for the ark of the covenant and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the

covenant of God.

Now when the Philistines fought them, Israel was defeated and the ark of God was captured. The two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed.

Then a man ran from the battle and came to Shiloh. Now when he came, there was Eli, sitting on a seat by the wayside watching, for he was worried about the ark of God. Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were so dim that he could not see. And when the man came into the city and told how the battle was lost and the ark stolen, all of the people cried out.

When Eli heard the noise he said, "What does the sound of this tumult mean?"

And the man came quickly and told Eli, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead; and the ark of God has been captured."

Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward and he died, for the man was old and heavy. Eli had judged Israel forty years. Phinehas' wife also died that day giving birth to a son. The judgment of God had come to pass.

When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the temple of Dagon, their false god, in the city of Ashdod. The next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face before the ark of the LORD. So they took Dagon and set it in its place again, and the next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face before the ark of the LORD. The head and arms of Dagon were broken off. Because the Philistines had taken the ark of the covenant, the LORD struck them with tumors. And when the men saw how it was, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us." They said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath."

So they carried the ark of the God to Gath, but the people of Gath also were struck with tumors. Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron.

When the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, "They have brought the ark of the God of Israel to us, to kill us and our people!. Send away the ark of the God of Israel,

and let it go back to its own place, so that it does not kill us." The ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months before it was returned to Israel. Then Samuel spoke to all of Israel, saying, "If you return to the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only; and He will deliver

you from the hand of the Philistines."

So the children of Israel put away the false gods and served the LORD only. The Philistines were subdued, and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. Then the cities which the Philistines had taken were restored to Israel. Samuel was a prophet of Israel all the days of his life.

Outer Aim - God provided a spiritual leader for Israel.

What the Story Tells Us - Match the name with the correct description.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Hannah | A. The faithful prophet of God |
| _____ Elkanah | B. The false god of the Philistines |
| _____ Eli | C. The wicked sons of Eli |
| _____ Samuel | D. Samuel's mother |
| _____ Hophni and Phinehas | E. The other wife of Elkanah |
| _____ Philistines | F. The enemies of God's people |
| _____ Dagon | G. The priest in the temple |
| _____ Penninah | H. Samuel's father |

What God's Word Tells Us - Read the following Bible passage and discuss the questions that follow.

Acts 17:10-11 - Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

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Passages

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Hymn - TLH #296 v. 1, 4

Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth,
To Thy Word I now give heed;
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth,
All Thy Word is true indeed.
Death's dread pow'r in me is rife;
Jesus, may Thy Word of Life
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor
That I cling to Thee forever.

Precious Jesus, I beseech Thee,
May Thy words take root in me;
May this gift from heav'n enrich me
So that I bear fruit for Thee!
Take them never from my heart
Till I see Thee as Thou art,
When in heav'nly bliss and glory
I shall greet Thee and adore Thee. Amen.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

You have given us Your Word. By it You guide us to live lives pleasing to You. You lead us to believe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, as our Savior from sin and eternal damnation. As You gave the Israelites a faithful teacher in Samuel, so give us faithful pastors and teachers to teach what we should believe and do according to Your Word. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Samuel

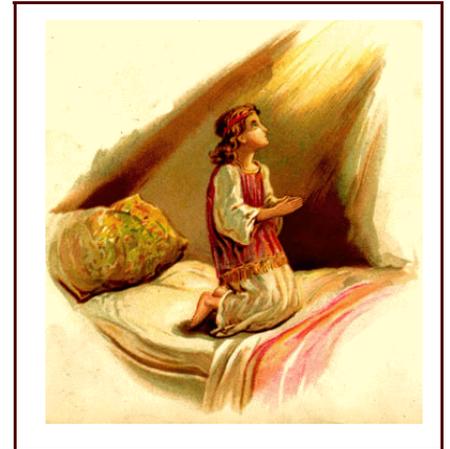
1 Samuel 1 - 7

*What do you remember about Samuel?
Do you know what is happening in this picture of him?
He would grow up to be a great prophet of the LORD.
Let's read now about Samuel, God's prophet.*

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Be with us as we study the lesson of Samuel. Help us to learn from Your Word so that we can grow up to serve You as Samuel did. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



The Story

There was a certain man, Elkanah. He had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children, which made her very sad.

Elkanah went yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD in Shiloh. On one of these temple visits Hannah prayed to the LORD and made a vow saying, "O LORD, if You will look on me in my sadness and will give me a son, I will give him to You all the days of his life."

Hannah spoke in her heart; but her lips moved and the High Priest Eli thought she was drunk. Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk?"

Hannah answered, "No, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I am not drunk, but have poured out my soul before the LORD."

Then Eli said, "Go in peace, and God grant your prayer which you have asked of Him."

Hannah and Elkanah returned to their house at Ramah. Hannah conceived and she bore a son, Samuel."

Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice but Hannah did not go along until Samuel was

old enough to live without her feeding him.

Now when he was old enough, Hannah took him up with her, along with an offering and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh. Samuel was young. They brought the child, Samuel, to Eli. Hannah said, "I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD for this child. The LORD has answered my prayer and I have lent him to the LORD for as long as he lives."

Hannah then said a prayer of praise. Samuel lived in the temple and helped Eli, the priest.

The sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were also priests but they were corrupt. They did not love and obey the LORD, but sinned against the people and the work of the temple. The sin of these young men was very great before the LORD.

But Samuel ministered before the LORD, even as a child. He wore a special linen skirt and every year Hannah would make him a robe and bring it to him as she came to make the yearly sacrifice with Elkanah. The LORD was with Hannah so that she bore three sons and two daughters.

Meanwhile the child Samuel grew



before the LORD. Now Eli was very old; and he heard all the sinful things his sons did to all Israel, but he did not try very hard to stop them from sinning.

One night, while Eli was lying down in his room and Samuel was lying down in his room, the LORD called Samuel. Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." Samuel went and lay down.

Then the LORD called again, "Samuel!"

So Samuel went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

The LORD called Samuel again the third time. Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you did call me."

Then Eli knew that the LORD had called Samuel. Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down and if He calls you say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.' "

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Then the LORD told Samuel about the judgment the LORD would send on Eli and his family for the sins of Hophni and Phinehas. So Samuel lay down and was afraid to tell Eli the vision.

Then Eli called Samuel and said, "What is the word that the Lord spoke to you? Please do not hide it from me."

Then Samuel told him everything, and Eli said, "It is the LORD. Let Him do what seems good to Him."

So Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of the LORD.

Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines. Israel was defeated by the Philistines.

The Israelites said, "Why has the LORD

defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies."

So the people sent to Shiloh for the ark of the covenant and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.

Now when the Philistines fought them, Israel was defeated and the ark of God was captured. The two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed.

Then a man ran from the battle and came to Shiloh. Now when he came, there was Eli, sitting on a seat by the wayside watching, for he was worried about the ark of God. Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were so dim that he could not see. And when the man came into the city and told how the battle was lost and the ark stolen, all of the people cried out.

When Eli heard the noise he said, "What does the sound of this tumult mean?"

And the man came quickly and told Eli, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead; and the ark of God has been captured."

Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward and he died, for the man was old and heavy. Eli had judged Israel forty years. Phinehas' wife also died that day giving birth to a son. The judgment of God came to pass.

When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the temple of Dagon, their false god, in the city of Ashdod. The next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face before the ark of the LORD. So they took Dagon and set it in its place again, and the next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face before the ark of the LORD. The head and arms of Dagon were broken off.

Because the Philistines took the ark of

the covenant, the LORD struck them with tumors. And when the men saw how it was, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us." They said, "What

So they carried the ark of the God to Gath, but the people of Gath also were struck with tumors. Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. When the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, "They have brought the ark of the God of Israel to us, to kill us and our people!. Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go back to its own place, so that it does not kill us." The ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months before it was returned to Israel. Then Samuel spoke to all of Israel, saying, "If you

shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath."

return to the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines."

So the children of Israel put away the false gods and served the LORD only. So the Philistines were subdued, and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. Then the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel. Samuel was a prophet of Israel all the days of his life.

Outer Aim - God provided a spiritual leader for Israel.

What the Story Tells Us - Cross off the incorrect word in the following sentences and write the correct word from the lesson above the incorrect word.

1. Hannah was happy that she had no children.
2. The LORD answered her prayer and gave her a son, Elkanah.
3. Hannah brought Samuel to the priest, Simeon, in the temple.
4. Hophni and Phinehas were good priests for the people of Israel.
5. Eli called to Samuel one night and told him about a judgment that would come.
6. The Amalekites defeated the Israelites and took the ark of the covenant.
7. Baal the false god, fell apart before the ark of God.
8. The enemies that stole the ark got colds from keeping the ark of the covenant.
9. They returned the ark after seven years.
10. Samuel was a doctor of the Israelites all his life.

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