

# Adventures with GOD!

## GOD GAVE A SAD WOMAN A BABY (A.2.Spring.10)

Biblical Reference	1 Samuel 1:1-20
Key Verse	Psalms 86:17
Key Concept	God shows me love and support in times of sadness.
Educational Objectives	At the end of class today, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe how Hannah felt before and after receiving the answer to her prayer.</li> <li>2. Describe the occasions when they have felt loved and helped by God.</li> <li>3. Say the Key Verse.</li> </ol>

### Life Application

Explain that God goes through our ups and downs with us. God is always ready to comfort us and make us feel loved. Children should know that we have a Father in heaven that is always ready to give us love and comfort. We only have to ask and God will answer lovingly.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Introduction	Doll, blanket	15 minutes
Bible story	Bible, puppets	10 minutes
Verse		10 minutes
Craft	Craft sheet, paper plates, crayons, glue	15 minutes
Activity	Illustrations, crayons	10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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## INSTRUCTIONS

### Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle.

**Prayer:** God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Introduction:** Wrap a doll in a blanket and pass it around to children. Encourage children to make observations about the doll, and try to keep curiosity by not saying much about the story yet. Ask if they have a new brother or sister. Then ask: Have you ever seen a newborn baby? Sometimes close family or friends have a baby. Spend a few minutes talking about the joy a newborn baby is for families. Encourage children to share about their experiences.

**Bible Story:** Use the figures of Hannah and Eli in the temple. Hannah prayed and cried every day in the temple. God knew the reason for her pain and God eventually answered her prayer. It's important to know that God always hears our prayers, but we do not always receive an answer immediately. Sometimes we have to wait a long time to receive the response from God. But God always answers us according to God's will. After you discuss God's response to Hannah's prayer, allow each child to hold the doll in their arms, and then pass to the next person. Everyone should have the opportunity to hold the doll. Remember to tell the story in your own words, as simple as possible while reminding children that God answers prayers.

**Key Verse:** If children remember a time when God answered their prayers, encourage them to share it with the class. Consider repeating the verse by adding the name of the thing they have received. For example: "God gave me my brothers." Everyone can mention what they received from God the Father (food, friends, things, feelings, etc.).

**Craft:** See craft sheet on page 7. Start by drawing a mouthless face on both sides of a paper plate. Give each child a copy of the figures: two mouths, a heart, and a tear. On one side glue the sad mouth and tear; on the other side of the plate, glue the happy mouth and heart. On the heart write, "God loves me and comforts me."

Next, when you say a situation in which God may feel sad, children can show the sad face and vice versa.

**Activity:** Encourage children to color the illustrations on pages 3-6, and continue to explore their reflections and feelings about the Bible Story.

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## **Closing Prayer**

Gather children around the candle again and then light the candle.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for loving us, for sending your son Jesus into the world.

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## Illustration

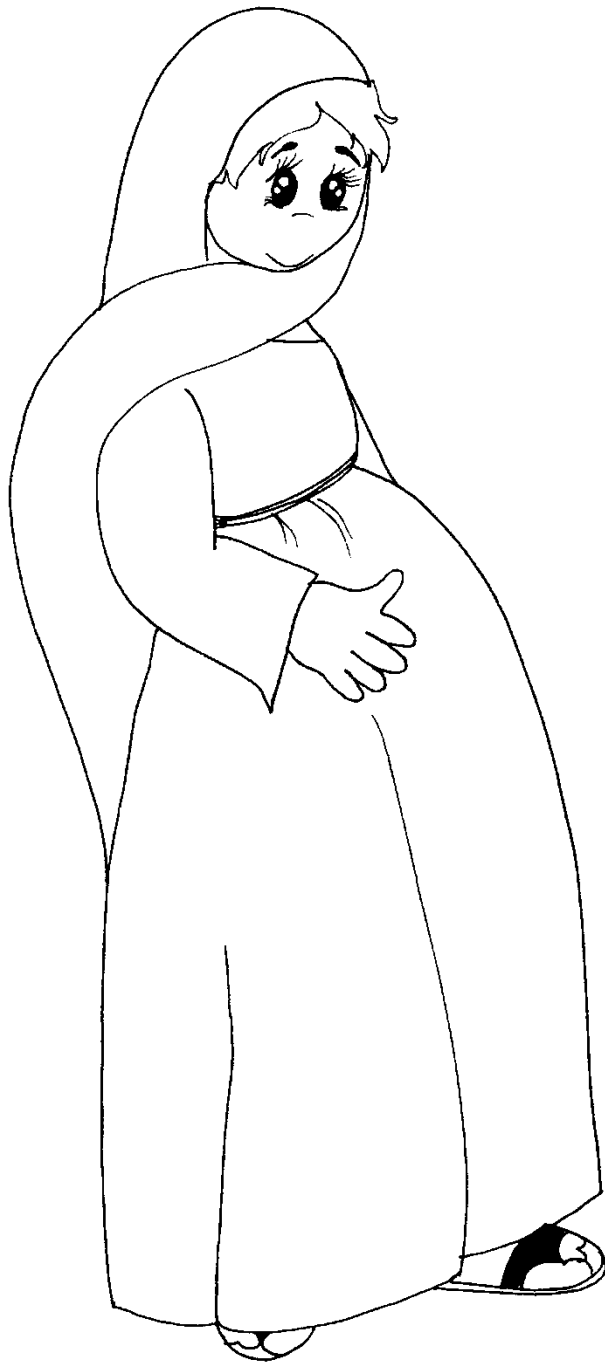
Hannah crying



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## Illustration

Hannah waiting for a baby



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## Illustration

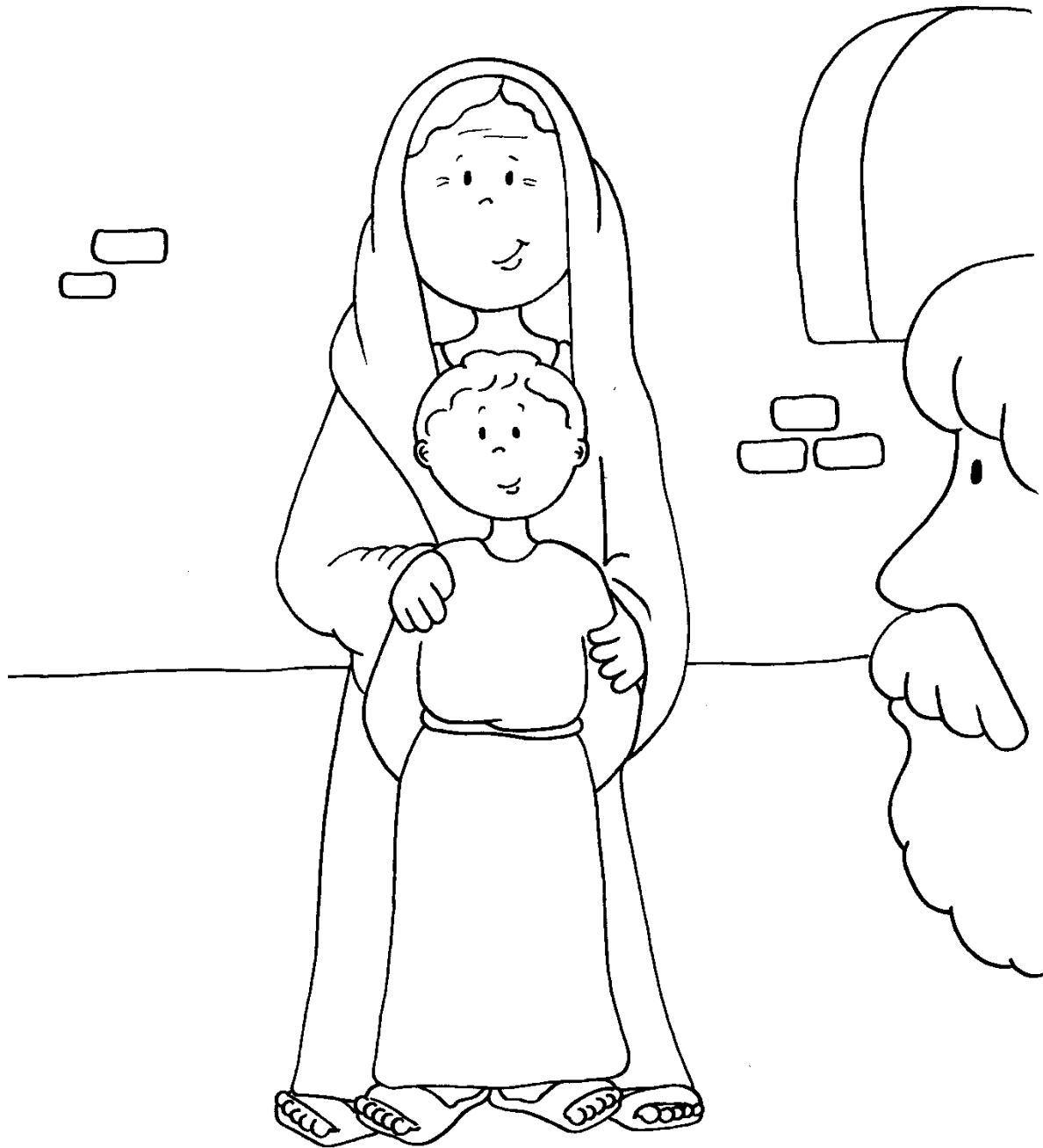
Hannah and Baby Samuel



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## Illustration

Hannah and baby in the temple



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## Craft

Cut and paste on disposable dishes. Children should stick the happy face on one side and the sad face on the other.

