

God Hears: 1 Samuel 1:9-20

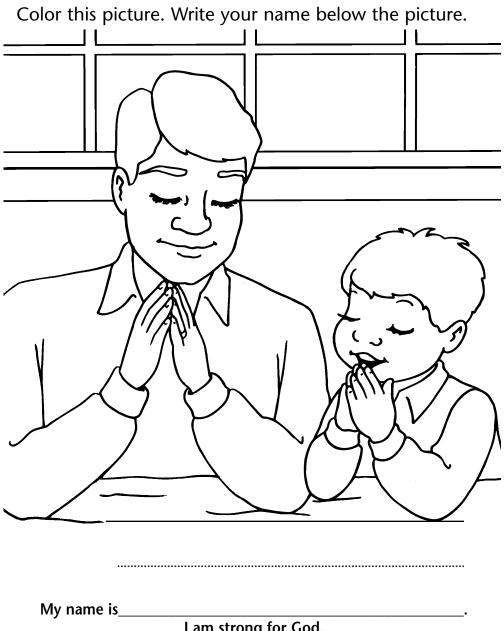
Set Up: Make copies of "Needs and Wants" from the "Lesson Reproducibles." Have some old magazines ready for the boys, from which they can cut pictures of things they need and things they want. They should paste or glue them, in collage style, in the appropriate column. These will be their pictorial prayer lists of things that can and should be brought to God in our daily prayers. They will also serve as an introduction to tonight's Bible Study, 1 Samuel 1:1–20.

Commander Says: There was a man named Elkanah. Does anyone remember that name from another Bible Study? He was the husband of Peninnah and Hannah. Year after year he and his family would go up from his town to Shiloh, where Eli was a priest of the Lord. Each year Elkanah would give portions of the sacrificial meat to Peninnah and all her sons and daughters, but to Hannah, who had no children, he always gave a double portion because he loved her. Still, Hannah would not eat much and was sad because Peninnah always made fun of her and ridiculed her for not having any children for Elkanah. Even though that didn't matter to him, Hannah was distressed and prayed and cried so hard at Shiloh that Eli the priest asked her what was wrong with her. After talking together some, Eli reassured her and prayed that the Lord would answer her prayer for a child. Hannah felt better and finally ate something. Later, God did answer her prayer by giving her a son. She named him Samuel, which means "heard by God," because Samuel was the Lord's answer to her prayers.

Review: Ask: "Who were Elkanah's wives?" (*Peninnah and Hannah.*) "Why was Hannah sad?" (*She had no children.*) "What did God do for Hannah?" (*He heard her prayer for a child and answered it.*)

Strong for God





I am strong for God.

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13,14

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