



## DIG DEEPER WEEK 4

### A LESSON FROM A YEAR-LONG CHILDREN'S BIBLE CLUB: THE STORY OF SAMUEL

*This is lesson #21 in the Year-Long Children's Bible Club curriculum. Go through it with a friend or family member to see just what kids in India are learning—and learn a Bible story along with them!*

#### PRAYER AND GRATITUDE

**One main truth:** God answers persistent prayers and rewards promise keepers.

**Bible Discoveries:** Gospel & Truth

Hannah went into the temple and prayed ceaselessly. She prayed so hard that her lips moved but no words came out. She promised God that if she had a son, he would be dedicated for the service of the Lord. Eli, the priest, told her that God would surely answer her prayers because she was praying so honestly. God answered her prayer and in due time she gave birth to a baby boy! She named him Samuel, meaning 'heard by God.'

Hannah kept her word to God. When Samuel was old enough, she brought him to the temple, dedicated him for God's service and put him under the care of Priest Eli to work in the temple. She thanked God for answering her prayers.

Young Samuel learned and grew up in the temple under the guidance of Priest Eli. One night, God called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and Samuel ran to Eli and said, "You called me?" Then Eli said, "I did not call you. Go back and

sleep." There was a call again and again, and the fourth time when God called him, Samuel said, "Speak to me Lord, your servant is listening."

That night, God told Samuel about the coming punishment upon Priest Eli's household because of his sons' wickedness. Samuel saw how God brought destruction upon Israel. The Philistines badly defeated them and killed many soldiers, including Eli's sons. Hearing the news, Eli fell from his chair and died there. After Eli's death, Samuel became the judge and prophet over Israel who faithfully served God for 80 years. And he was one of the most successful prophets and the last judge who ruled upon Israelites effectively.

Pray ceaselessly. Thank God, every time. Keep your word to God. Remain truthful and dedicated. Remember, only God can make our lives meaningful.

#### LIFE CONNECTIONS

**Memory Verse:** "The Lord has given me what I asked Him for." 1 Samuel. 1:27

**Bible:** What was Hannah's request to the Lord? How did God answer her prayer? What did she do when God answered her prayer in a positive way? Does God always answer our prayers, or only sometimes? What are the three ways God answers prayers? Sometimes He says, "no." Sometimes He says, "wait." And sometimes He says, "yes."

**Pray this prayer:** "God, thank you for answering my prayers. God, I know you answer prayers: yes, no, or wait. Holy Spirit, show me a promise I need to keep." \*Pause to listen\* "Jesus, please give me courage to obey and share this truth."

**Worship Song:** Sing a song or two together.

