

# Tonight's

passage – **1 Samuel 1.3-20**

theme – **Trust God!**

*Today's passage centres round a lady called Hannah.  
That's a Hebrew name and you'll find out what it means.  
Here's what it looks like when it's written in Hebrew –*

חנה

*See if you can find her  
name in Hebrew on each  
page of the worksheet!*

## Spot the differences!

In this 'street scene'  
there are

**10**

differences

between the two  
pictures.

Can you find all 10 of  
the differences?

\*

The picture comes  
from the story of the  
day of Pentecost  
when people ran to  
see and hear what  
was going on.

God had come by His  
Spirit and was doing  
'a new thing' in the  
world!

\*

The book of 1 Samuel  
tells the story of God  
doing a new thing in  
the land of Israel.

In today's passage  
we're going to be  
seeing the differences  
between some of the  
people in the story.



**Read**  
**1 Samuel 1**  
**verse 2, 7-8**

# Hannah

חנה  
and Elkanah

<sup>2</sup> Elkanah had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

<sup>6</sup> Because the Lord had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. <sup>7</sup>This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the Lord, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup>Her husband Elkanah would say to her, 'Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?'

We're going to try and spot the difference first of all between these two people – Hannah and Elkanah.

Some of the differences are obvious – like Hannah was a woman and Elkanah was a man!

But there's another important difference.

For that you need to know what Hannah's name means

## Names have meanings!

(We saw that last week! Do you remember? Elkanah's name means 'God has purchased')

### Hannah means 'grace'.

And grace means we look to God to do for us what we could not do ourselves.

Hannah understood that – whereas Elkanah had tried to fix his problems by himself. It doesn't work!

*In the box at the bottom right of this page you'll see Hannah's name written in Hebrew. In the middle box see if you can copy the Hebrew writing. And in the left hand box try not only writing her name in Hebrew, but copying the design top and bottom as well!*



חנה





# Hannah

and Eli

**Read**  
**1 Samuel 1**  
**verses 9-11**

*Eli was the priest  
at Shiloh – a bit  
like the minister  
at the church.*



<sup>9</sup> Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord's house. <sup>10</sup> In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. <sup>11</sup> And she made a vow, saying, 'Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.'

## Spot the difference!

Have a look at verse 9 and see if you can spot the first way in which Hannah was rather different from Eli – *(apart from the fact, again, that she was a woman and he was a man!)*

**Hannah** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Eli the priest** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

חנה

## For you to think about . .

- What does this difference tell you about Hannah and Eli?
- Are there times when you just feel like giving up?
- Try to learn to be like Hannah who seemed to be saying, "No, I'm not just going to sit back and let it happen. Instead, I'll get up and ask God!"



**Read**  
**1 Sam.1**  
**verses 10-20**

# Hannah

and Eli (part 2)

<sup>10</sup>In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. <sup>11</sup>And she made a vow, saying, 'Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.'

<sup>12</sup>As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup>Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk <sup>14</sup>and said to her, 'How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.'

<sup>15</sup>'Not so, my lord,' Hannah replied, 'I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. <sup>16</sup>Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.'

<sup>17</sup>Eli answered, 'Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him.' <sup>18</sup>She said, 'May your servant find favour in your eyes.' Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

<sup>19</sup>Early the next morning they arose and worshipped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. <sup>20</sup>So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I asked the Lord for him.'

## Hannah prayed. Eli said his prayers.

Here's the next difference between Hannah and Eli. There's a **big** difference between simply saying your prayers .. and **praying!**

You can read about Hannah's praying in verses 10-13.

You can read Eli's prayer at verse 17.

### think ..

What are the big differences between the way that Hannah and Eli were praying?



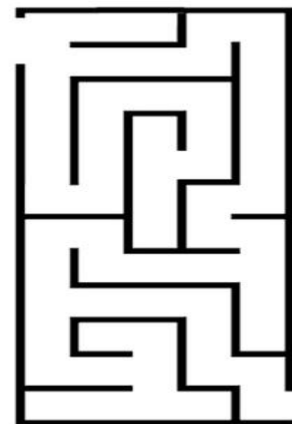
Hannah's prayer was answered!

And although neither she nor anyone else realised it at the time, her prayer started a wonderful new work that the Lord would do.



Follow the maze from  
your prayers to the Lord!

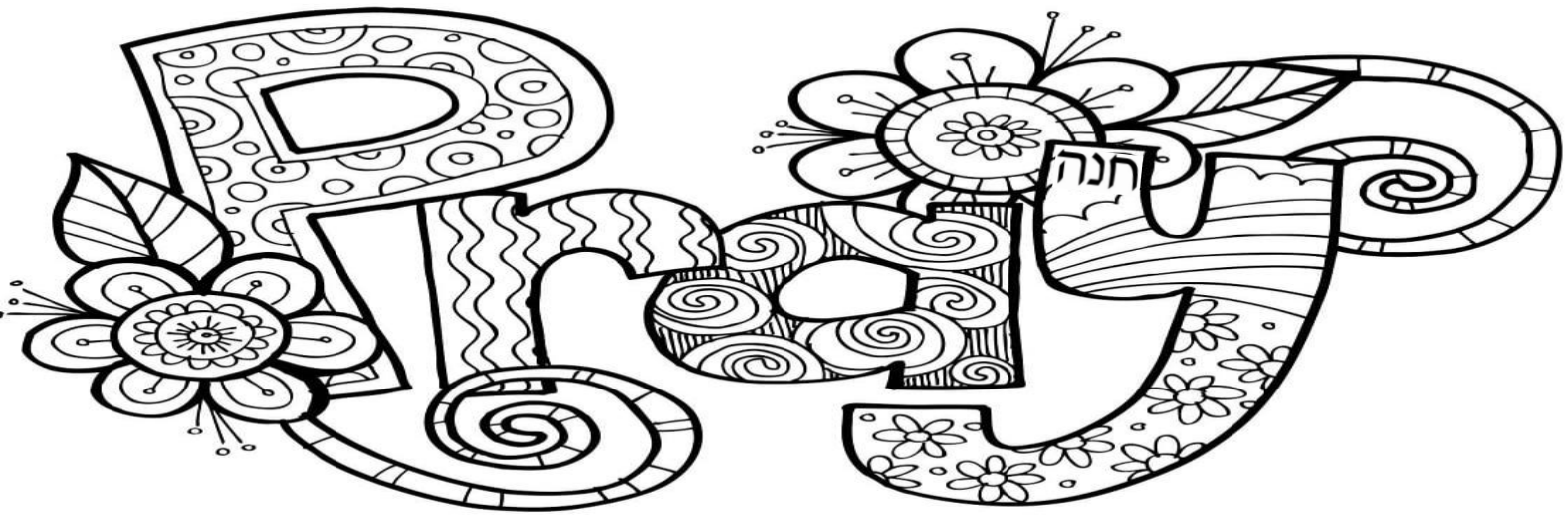
*Our prayers travel from  
our mouths to God's ear.*



*I know He hears me.*







*Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet.*

*Speak to God about what you've learned: if you want, use this prayer to help you*

**It's great to read the story of Hannah, Lord!**

**I feel sad for her, but it helps me to learn that sometimes there are sad times and sometimes there will be difficulties for those who trust You.**

**Help me to do what she did when things were really hard and tell You all about my problems. Thank You that You listen when we tell You all our sorrows!**

**And thank You, too, that You care about Your people so much and are glad to come to our help.**

**Please be near to all the people who are sad at this time: hear their cries and come quickly to their help.**

**Thank You, Lord, for the way You can turn even bad times into good times. You're amazing! Help me to trust You always.**



# Today's verse for you to try and remember!

"In her deep  
anguish Hannah  
prayed to the LORD,  
weeping bitterly"  
(1 Sam.1.10)



# Wordsearch

The Wordsearch is about prayer: it's taken from James 5:16. See if you can find all the words!

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16 (NIV) חנה

O Q G T O S D S C M F S I C K  
S J F G R E Q M F A H A O G L  
K R J E L Y T P O N I A I R T  
L I D A S C V R R O Z W P T Z  
K L E G S O C A G I N I K P H  
E H N N W N T I I N A L X S Y  
C O I M B F R S V T J P H N R  
S S R L T E N E E U C E J E I  
I J C K L S W A N Y O N E C G  
D L H E E S C J S I N G G R H  
S K U T P O W E R F U L R R T  
C K R X K R S C V R A I S E E  
X U C Y P R A Y E R K X L Z O  
L N H S H N N T R O U B L E U  
I P G E F F E C T I V E P U S

trouble  
anyone  
happy  
sing

songs  
praise  
sick  
elders

church  
anoint  
faith  
raise

confess  
sins  
forgiven  
healed

prayer  
righteous  
powerful  
effective

# COLOUR in the picture



Hannah was  
praying  
in her heart



**H**  
**IS FOR**  
**HANNAH**  
**1SAMUEL 1**

.. because I asked  
the Lord for him