

## Activities:



Show children a closed melon that is pre-cut. Open it up. If you had never seen a melon before, you would be surprised to see how different it is on the inside. Show an onion that is pre-cut. Open it. An onion is the same all the way through, layer after layer. Sometimes people might come to God in prayer with nice words that they have heard from someone else. They don't want to share their deepest hurts with God, so they put a hard shell around their hearts (hold up the melon). But God wants us to come to Him freely, not hiding anything (hold up the onion).

Play a game of "I'm Fine!" Pass the "problem" ball around in a circle while singing a song. When the song ends, tell the person holding the ball an example of something bad happening.

Everyone else asks, "Are you okay?" The person holding the ball always answers, "I'm fine!"

Your best friend is too busy to come for play dates now that they go to a different school.

You didn't know any of the answers during a math lesson.

You forgot your homework.

Your team lost the game.

You had a fight with your mom.

Do you ever say, "I'm fine!" when you're really upset? Lots of people do (even grown-ups). God wants to hear about our problems. We can cry to God when we are sad or mad. He loves us and wants to help us feel better. He already knows how we feel, so we don't need to hide anything from Him. Talking to God first can make it easier to talk to other people, and to tell them how we really feel (instead of saying, "I'm fine!").

***UPPER***

***ELEMENTARY***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Hannah, Samuel, Shiloh, Ramah, Ephraim, children, prayer,  
heartache

Isuaem \_\_\_\_\_

paremhi \_\_\_\_\_

hosihl \_\_\_\_\_

cdlheinr \_\_\_\_\_

haarm \_\_\_\_\_

raprye \_\_\_\_\_

nhanha \_\_\_\_\_

ehecarath \_\_\_\_\_

## What the Bible Says about Prayer

But if we confess our sins to God, he can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away. ~ 1 John 1:9

If you have sinned, you should tell each other what you have done. Then you can pray for one another and be healed. The prayer of an innocent person is powerful, and it can help a lot. ~ James 5:16

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. ~ Philippians 4:6



**I pray:**

- all the time
- every day
- every once in a while
- only when I'm in trouble
- when I want something

**Praying makes me feel:**

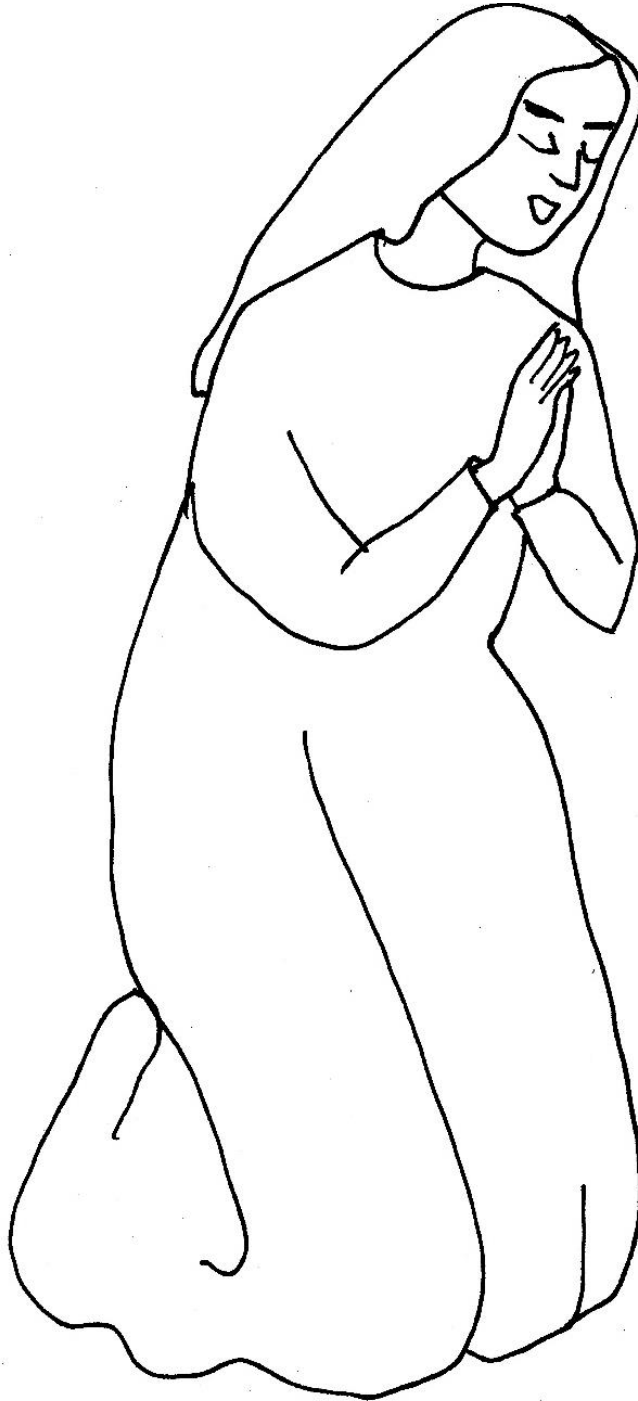
- good about myself
- happy
- guilty for the bad things I have done
- calm

**I believe that God:**

- always gives us what we pray for
- sometimes answers prayers
- sometimes says "no" as an answer to prayer
- answers prayers only if we say it right
- doesn't care whether I pray or not

# **Lower Elementary**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



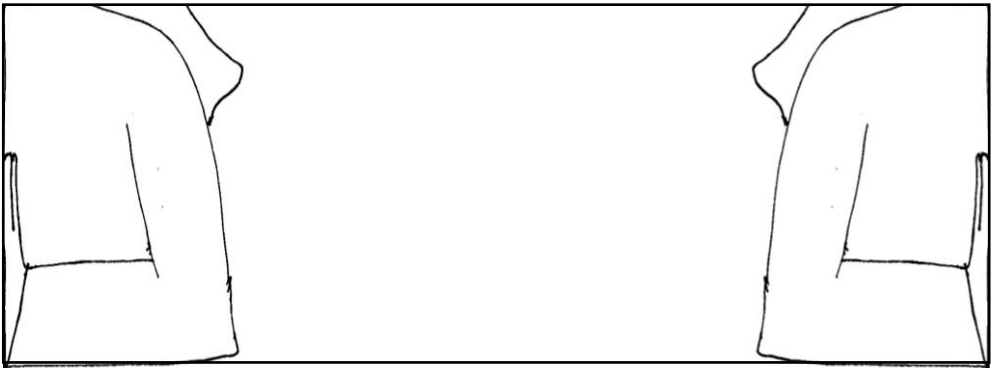
**“The LORD gave me just what I asked for. Now I am giving him to the LORD, and he will be the LORD’s servant for as long as he lives.”**

**~ 1 Samuel 1:27-28**

- ❖ Children color and cut out Hannah and extra arms
- ❖ Children glue arms behind Hannah and fold over to cover Samuel







**Preschool**

## Coloring Page:

Encourage children to draw a picture of something they can ask God for in prayer. Remind them that God hears all their prayers, and they can share their feelings with God.

## Modeling Dough:

Encourage children to make something they can ask God for in prayer.

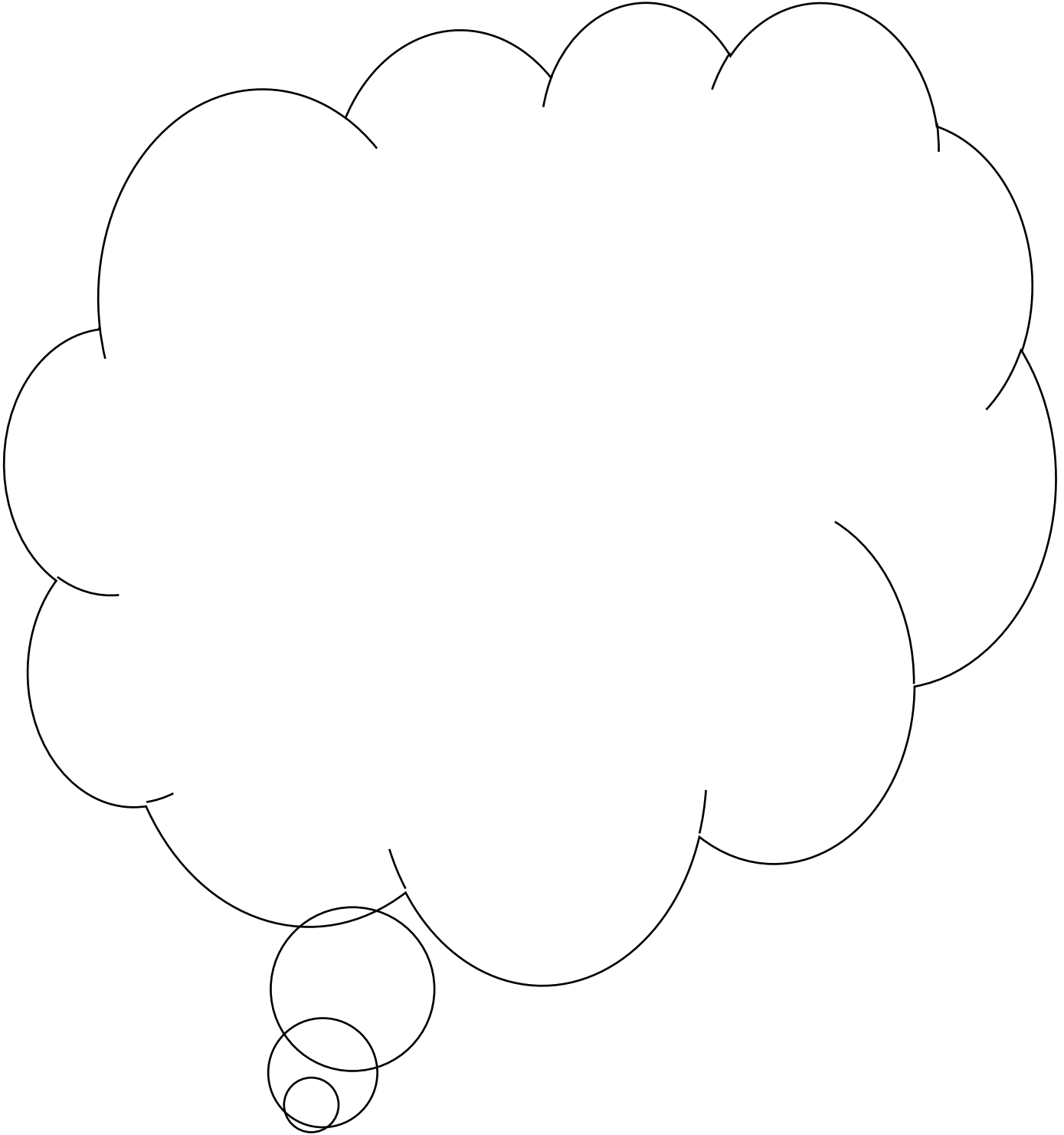
## Game:

Hide a baby doll in the room. Call the baby "Samuel." Let the children search for the baby. When the children find baby Samuel, tell them to say, "Praise God!" It is always good to praise God for answering our prayers.

# Hannah



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



**I can pray to God about** \_\_\_\_\_