

100  
READING

# The Prayer For Baby



# The Prayed For Baby



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Illustrations Steven Butler



Hannah was sad. She had no children.  
She wanted a baby.

Elkanah was Hannah's husband.  
He wanted a baby, too.



All day Hannah thought  
about having a baby.



All night Hannah dreamed  
about having a baby.



She wanted a baby with ten little  
toes and ten little fingers.

But Hannah still didn't  
have a baby.



So Hannah went to the temple to pray. She prayed and prayed.

She asked God to give her a baby boy.



**She promised she would dedicate her baby boy to God.**

**Hannah cried and cried. Then she prayed some more.**



**Eli the priest saw Hannah  
praying in the temple.**

**He saw her lips moving, but  
didn't hear her praying.**





**Eli thought that Hannah  
had been drinking!**

**"Why are you drunk?"  
he asked Hannah.**



"Oh no!" said Hannah.  
"I have not been drinking."

"I am very sad. I am crying to God  
because I want a baby boy."



**"Be happy!" said Eli. "God will answer your prayer."**

**"Oh, thank you!" said Hannah. And Hannah went home.**



Soon Hannah and Elkanah had a baby boy. They named him Samuel.

Hannah fed him and loved him and watched him grow.



And Hannah remembered  
her promise to God.

When Samuel was old enough,  
she took him to the temple.



**And Samuel began his  
life of serving God.**

# Literature Connection

Read aloud about Hannah's baby from  
1 Samuel 1:9-28.

## Conversation Starters

Why do you think that Hannah wanted a baby?

What promise did Hannah make? Is it important to keep promises?

Why doesn't God always give us exactly what we pray for?



**Running Words: 218**  
**Instructional Level: < 99**

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