

A PRAYER ANSWERED

CENTRAL TRUTH

In this week's teaching, we will see that Hannah chose to worship even when waiting for God to come through was hard and her heart was broken! Hannah and Samuel's story will show us that **the Lord is worthy of worship, and our purpose is found in Him alone.**

KEY QUESTION

- **Why do we tell God about Himself when we worship? Should we only worship when we feel like it?**

Reciting what we know about God's character back to Himself may feel silly sometimes. After all, He knows all of these things. But, telling God, "I understand who you are, as You have revealed Yourself to me." We get to recognize that God was right about all of the things that He told us about Himself through His Word and His people. It also keeps our hearts focused on the recipient of praise (God) and not just ourselves. We are called to focus on God and praise Him, keeping our eyes on the gift Giver and not only the gift.

KEEP IN MIND

- Sometimes our prayers are answered in ways that we had hoped; other times, the Lord chooses to answer them in different ways. Take time this week to share how you have experienced God's responses to your prayers, and what these experiences have taught you about the Lord.
- Samuel is considered to be the final judge of the judges era before Israel's first king, King Saul. When we think of a judge today, we may think of someone in a black robe holding a gavel in a court room. Using the **Theology Note** in this week's session, show students that God raised up people—referred to as judges—to lead the Israelites in military conquests against oppressors and make civil decisions.

APPLICATION

- **How do you reframe your purpose and priorities, knowing that God is worthy of worship and that purpose can only be found in Him?**

THE WIN

FOR THE STUDENT: The world will try to tell us what our purpose is. However, our purpose comes from God and is found in Him alone.

FOR THE LEADER: God spoke to Samuel in a remarkable way. Encourage students to seek to hear from the Lord through reading His Word this week.

7 ARROWS

- ↻ What does this passage say?
- ↑ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ← What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ↔ How does this passage change the way I relate to people?
- ↓ What does this passage tell us about the human heart?
- ↺ How does this passage prompt me to pray?
- What does this passage demand of me?