

Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children

Lesson 43

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

Little Boy Samuel

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

Little Boy Samuel

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

Little Boy Samuel

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

Little Boy Samuel

Level E—Bible Bits: Books of the Bible:

Psalms—Isaiah / Topic Treasures—Wise Children

Little Boy Samuel

Hannah loved her little boy Samuel, and praised God for giving her such a special child.

When he was old enough, Samuel was brought to live with Priest Eli in the temple. That's where he could learn so many things, and could read God's Word written on the special scrolls—the very old books, like the ones that God helped Moses to write.

Each year when Hannah and her husband Elkanah visited, she brought him a nice new coat that she made. The coat would fit him and keep him warm for the next year.

Samuel grew strong and wise, and learned God's Word. After Samuel, Hannah had other children too! God took good care of Samuel and helped him to be a good example of loving God and following in His ways.



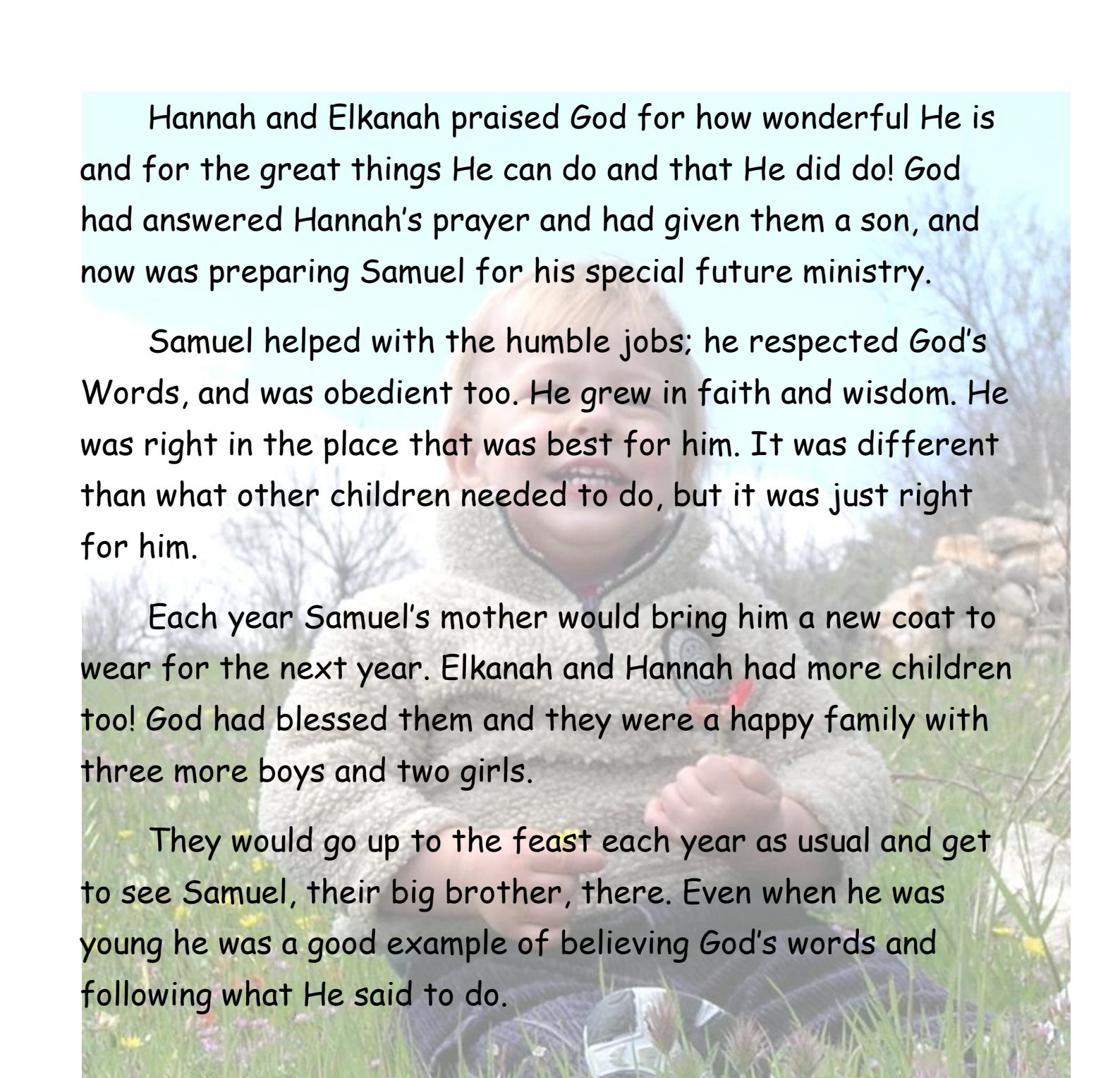
Little Boy Samuel

How would you like to live in a place that only certain special people got to be? Samuel was brought to live with Priest Eli so that he could start to serve the Lord right away and get to hear His words. Samuel didn't have to wait until he was old.

Samuel was the only child that had that privilege of serving God and learning of His ways while living in the tabernacle. He had the rare and special opportunity to get to hear and learn about what was written on the old scrolls—God's words of instruction to everyone.

Samuel helped with the jobs that needed to get done and learned how to pray. Samuel got to wear a special outfit that was made just his size—just like a Priest wears. He had his own matching set, to be the same as Priest Eli, who was caring for him and teaching him.





Hannah and Elkanah praised God for how wonderful He is and for the great things He can do and that He did do! God had answered Hannah's prayer and had given them a son, and now was preparing Samuel for his special future ministry.

Samuel helped with the humble jobs; he respected God's Words, and was obedient too. He grew in faith and wisdom. He was right in the place that was best for him. It was different than what other children needed to do, but it was just right for him.

Each year Samuel's mother would bring him a new coat to wear for the next year. Elkanah and Hannah had more children too! God had blessed them and they were a happy family with three more boys and two girls.

They would go up to the feast each year as usual and get to see Samuel, their big brother, there. Even when he was young he was a good example of believing God's words and following what He said to do.

Activity

*Make a cut-out figure of a boy, which can fold out to be many figures joined together. (First fold the paper, and then cut out the shape of a boy, keeping the hand shapes uncut, but joined at the folds.) Then unfold it to see all the boy shapes in a line. Write on each one a good quality or something special about Samuel that this story lists. (Perhaps you'll think of: Good example; Obedient; Respected God's Word; etc.)

Little Boy Samuel



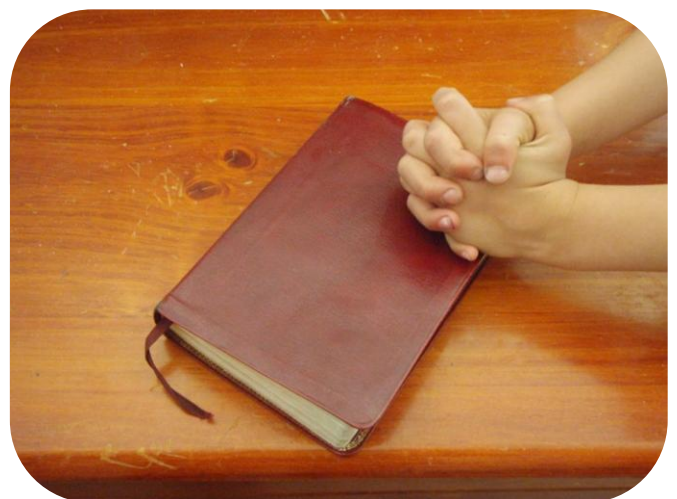
Different people are called to serve Me in different places and in different ways. If you learn about the lives of those who have served as missionaries around the world there is a lot of variety in what each one was called to do, according to what jobs needed to be done and where My love needed to be shown.

Before someone who's called to do something particularly special or unique for God, they need training. Just like anyone who does a job in this world has to learn the skills that will enable them to do the jobs. What if a baker had never even touched a raw lump of dough in his life, would he be able to run a bakery and be able to tell people how to make good bread?

Or what if an engineer wanted to design a big building, but he had never learned how to build and all the many things that went into safe and strong construction work and how to make buildings that would last?

Everyone needs training and preparation in order to do a good job and make a positive difference, and not just make a mess of things instead.

Well, God had an important job for someone to do. Things weren't going so good in the tabernacle. There were some disobedient and disrespectful men that were causing trouble. The priest Eli did the best he could to help people to get closer to



God, but not everyone was making the right choices, and Eli was getting older too. Someone needed to be around to point people in the right direction.

After praying desperately for a child, and being given one, Hannah was so very happy! She loved her son Samuel very much, but didn't forget her promise. She wanted him to be a special child and to follow God all his life.

Instead of attending the yearly feast, when Hannah was caring for her new little baby, she stayed home each year, until Samuel was old enough to live with Priest Eli. When the time was right, Hannah and Elkanah brought their young son along with some gifts, and went to visit Priest Eli at the feast in Shiloh.

"Remember me?" Hannah said, "I was the woman who was praying here, and you said God would answer my prayer. And He has! This is the child I was praying for. I'd like him to learn the Lord's ways and live here."

So Priest Eli took care of Samuel, and even let him be dressed in some special clothes—child-size ones of the same style that Eli would wear. Because he was in training for an important job when he was older, he was given special privileges that no other child received.

It wasn't always easy for him to be away from his mother and father and family, but he was able to learn things that none of the other children had the chance to learn. And just like My promises say to you in the Bible, I was very close to him and made sure that he had all that he needed.



When Hannah brought Samuel to stay and live with Priest Eli and learn of God's ways she offered praise. She was so glad for the miracles—the miracle of finally having a son, and the miracle that he would get to be a special servant of God and be trained in God's ways and with His words.

Samuel grew year by year and gained strength and wisdom, and each year Hannah would bring him a new coat that would be big enough to fit him for the next year. Priest Eli prayed for God to bless Hannah and Elkanah with more children, and that's what happened. They had five more children—three boys and two girls.

Let's Talk About It

*Do you have any thoughts or ideas about something you would like to do for the Lord—either now, or when you are a grown up?

*Are you ever away from either of your parents, in order to learn or experience something that will help you later on in life? How do you feel about it?

--Do as Samuel did, and do the best you can. Be faithful with what you are meant to do, and learn all you can. Most of all, learn God's Words, stay close to Jesus and realise how close He is to you. You'll grow strong and wise, and will be able to take on new responsibility when older.

Activity

*Play a game where one person holds a ball or cushion and says, "If I were to be a ____ (musician/carpenter/taxi driver/farmer, etc.) I would need to ____ (learn patience/know how to read music/be diligent, etc)." The person with the ball says the job or occupation and then throws the ball to one of the other players who fills in the answer of a skill or quality that would be needed, or something that they would need to learn in order to do that job competently and well.

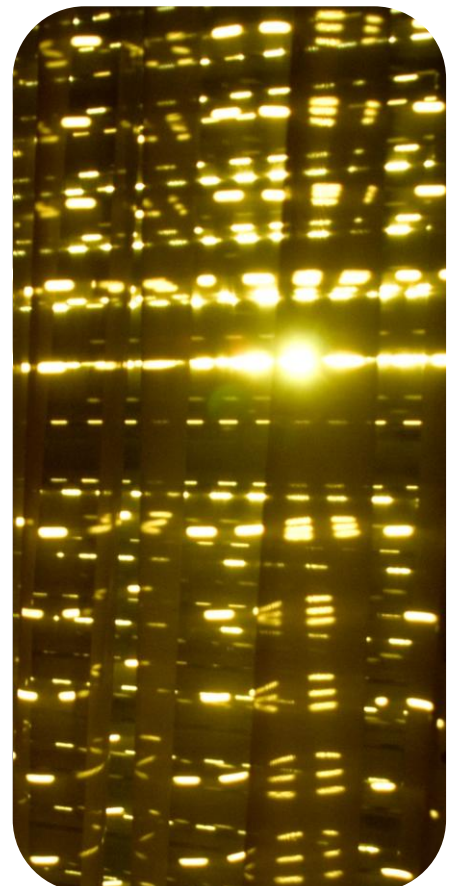
Fountain of Faith

Job 23:10

But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

2Samuel 22:4

I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.



Little Boy Samuel



Connect and Communicate

*Choose a word (like, "pray" or "praise" or "Jesus" or "time" etc.) and use it as if it's an acronym, thinking up what the letters could each stand for, as you pray and praise before your Bible study time.

For example, if the word "help" is used, the players might contribute the meaning to be: "Thank You Jesus for Your Word, it gives us: **H**ope-**E**nergy-**L**ight-**P**eace." Or full sentences can be used, each starting with the next letter of the word-acronym.

Study Fun

Mark: All the words and phrases that have to do with prayer and praising God.

Look up: Arrogancy/arrogant; and how much an "ephah" is, in Bible-time measurements.

List: The interesting words and names in these verses that begin with the letter "e".

1 Samuel

1:21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and his vow.

1:22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the Lord, and there abide for ever.

1:23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the Lord establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

1:24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh: and the child was young.

1:25 And they brought the child to Eli.

1:26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the Lord.

1:27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

1:28 Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there.

2:1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord.

2:2 There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

2:3 Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

2:8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust.

2:9 He will keep the feet of his saints.



2:10 The Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

2:11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the Lord before Eli the priest.

2:18 But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

2:19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

2:20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The Lord give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the Lord. And they went unto their own home.

2:21 And the Lord visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the Lord.



Activity

*Make up a tune and sing Hannah's song of praise, listed in the verses above. (1 Samuel 2:1-3, 8-10)

Books of the Bible: Psalms—Isaiah

Praise

Psalms 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

* The person on your right whispers to you what to praise the Lord for. Then the person on your left whispers to you how you're supposed to praise. Then everyone acts out the praise topic they were given in the way they were told to praise.

Psalms

The Book of Psalms is a collection of 150 ancient songs. King David wrote many Psalms (that is, songs). Those serving the Lord wanted to sing and remember these psalms which were often used to praise and worship God. King David had many harps made so that songs of prayer and praise could be sung, such as the ones he and others wrote, that are recorded in the Book of Psalms.

The psalms of David tell of hardship, of forgiveness, of sorrow, of joy, of sickness and health, of the importance and beauty of God's Word, of the blessings given to those who choose to live a godly life and the troubles caused by the ungodly people, as well as the Lord's judgements and righteousness. Some passages in the Psalms tell of Jesus' coming to Earth. Psalm 1 starts off by teaching us how to stay strong with a close relationship to the Lord. The Psalms are a very special part of the Bible.

We can learn many things about the Lord and draw close to Him through the beautiful words written in the Book of Psalms.

Psalm 119:89 For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.

Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs is a collection of good advice and wise sayings. Its main author was King Solomon. The Book of Proverbs teaches that we must respect God in order to have His blessings and a life well-lived. The book begins with Solomon's advice to his son. Solomon advised his son to desire wisdom above everything else on Earth, and to receive it from God.

This book has many basic principles for doing business; it gives word-pictures and object lessons to help us to make wise and responsible choices; it talks of giving to others; of obedience; of choosing the right kinds of friends and companions; the benefits of diligence and hard work; it talks of training and teaching children God's ways; and many other tips are included in the Book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Ecclesiastes

King Solomon wrote this book that expresses something many people on Earth wonder about. He wanted to know what was good and right, and what makes life meaningful. He realised that rich and poor, wise and foolish, humans and animals alike all eventually pass away, and no matter how hard they worked or studied, and how many riches they might have gained, most of the time their work and their assumed greatness is forgotten by the generations that follow.

Then what was really the most important thing for people to use their time for, while on Earth? He said to not get too stressed and pressured

with work and wealth—as many times the poor are happier and can sleep well after a good day's labour, while the rich worry about their wealth.

The book talks of how good it is to enjoy your work, enjoy your life, have times of relaxation, and have fun while making wise choices and doing what is good. What you do will matter to your Creator, who has a plan for not only your life but He also knows the full reason for all mankind's life on Earth. He knows the full picture.

The end of the Book of Ecclesiastes sums up the words of wisdom that its writer concluded, after all his research and observations of people and life. He said that while we are here, the best thing to do is to respect and love God, and to obey Him. That is our most important duty, above all else.

Time and things will pass, but when we get to the end of our lives, we will be glad that we have done this. This will prove to be the wisest use of our time, thoughts and energies, for it will bring long lasting results—while everything else that is temporal will pass with time.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Song of Solomon

The Song of Solomon is also called the Song of Songs. This book is a beautiful love poem. The Song of Solomon is the story of the king and the woman that he loves. The Song of Solomon teaches us that God loves His people. Elsewhere, the Bible describes Christians as 'the bride of Christ' (2 Corinthians 11:2).

Even the greatest love that one person on Earth can feel for another is small compared to how much Jesus loves each one of us. When we show our love for Him in return, and let Him be our dearest friend and companion throughout our life, this makes Him so glad, for He loves us so much.

The Bible talks of a wonderful celebration and feast, called, "The Marriage Supper", that will happen when Jesus comes back to take us to Heaven. Just like on Earth a good husband promises to always love, care for and be a close team with his wife, and he wants to share everything he has with her, so does Jesus promise these things to us who love and believe in Him. He will always be with us; He loves us eternally; He will care for us,

and will share all His Heavenly riches with us. This Marriage Supper in Heaven celebrates His promise that we can be with Him forever, and He'll love us always—and that we love Him too, and are so thankful to belong to Him. Jesus will know then that His gift of salvation was worth it, for He won't be as a man that is alone, but He will have all of us to share the joys of Heaven with, for eternity.

Song of Solomon 2:4 He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

Isaiah

Isaiah was a prophet of God who was faithful to write down the many messages that God wanted him to pass on to the people. One time he saw a vision of God's throne and some powerful angels. He heard the Lord say that they needed a messenger to go and tell God's words to the people. Isaiah willingly offered to be the one to do the job. It wasn't an easy job, but he was faithful to listen to God's words and write them down for others to read.

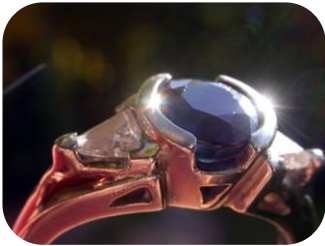
Some of the messages from the Book of Isaiah were read and mentioned by Jesus when He came to Earth—for Isaiah's book contains prophecies about Christ's coming. Some messages that Isaiah received were for the people around him then at that time; some were speaking of the time when Jesus would be on Earth; others speak of a time that is yet to come, when God makes the world a peaceful and lovely place again.

We can find strength, wisdom and inspiration from many of the beautiful passages in this book.

Isaiah 40:28-31 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Activity

- *Read a Psalm.
- *Read some Proverbs and talk about their meaning and an application.
- *Draw a picture illustrating a pleasant pair of opposites talked about in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.
- *Listen to an audio of a sweet love song.
- *Talk about the changes in the world that will happen to make things wonderful and at peace again.



Topic Treasures

— Wise Children

Study Fun

Mark: Any words that represent age (child, elder, youth, etc)

Look up: In a dictionary the words, "admonish", "haughty", "humble", and "pure".

List: The good things mentioned that make a child wise, or show that he is. For example the good instructions, or words of qualities that show others that he is wise.

Proverbs 20:11 Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

Ecclesiastes 4:13 Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished.

Psalms 119:99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Timothy 5:1-2 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

1 Peter 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

2 Timothy 2:15-16 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

Psalms 34:11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Psalms 131:1-2 Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child.

Matthew 18:1-4 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.





Daily Diary

*Do older people treat you with respect? (Listen to you, act considerately, encourage you, talk kindly to you, etc.)

List any ways you would like people to treat you better—and remember to do these things also for those younger than you, both now and when you get older. Then list the things you think children should do or ways they should act that will help gain the respect of adults.