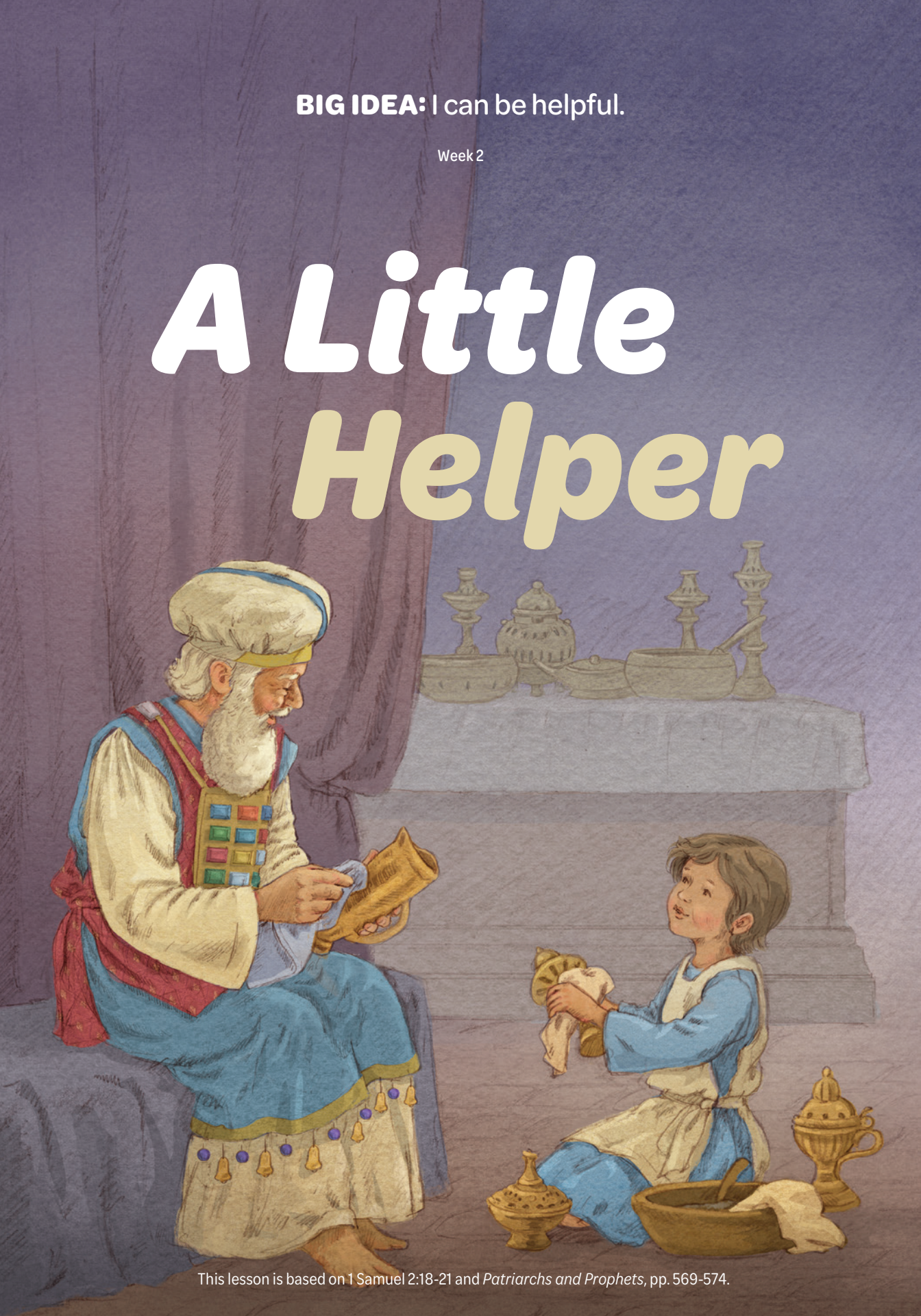
BIG IDEA: I can be helpful.

Week 2

A Little Helper

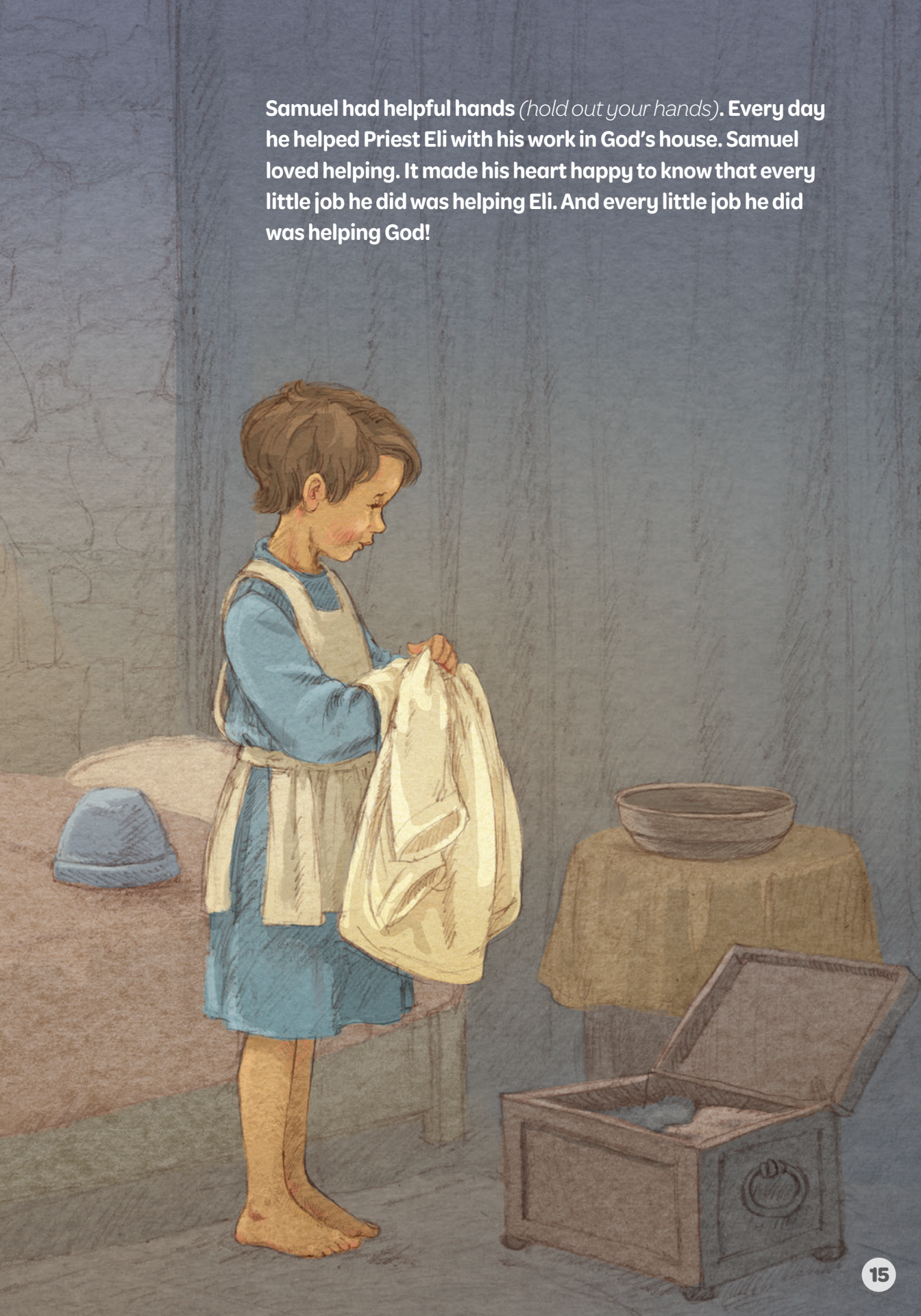


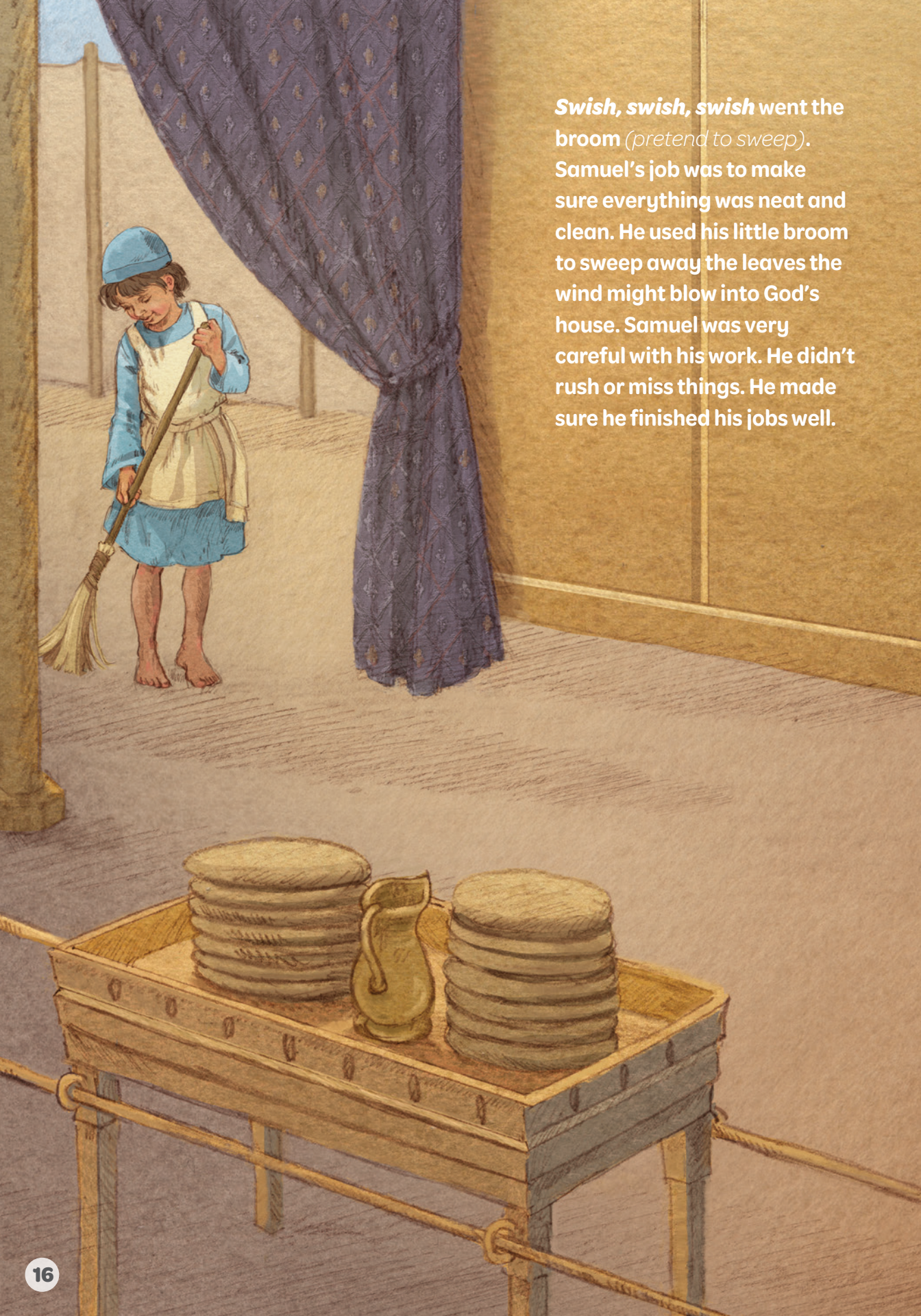
This lesson is based on 1 Samuel 2:18-21 and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 569-574.



Little Samuel stretched his arms up high *(stretch)*. Then he stepped out of bed with a smile. It was a new day and there was lots to do! Samuel lived in God's house, the tabernacle. He helped Priest Eli. Samuel made his little bed smooth and tidy. He folded his night clothes and put them away in his little box. He got dressed in the special robe His mother had made for him. He was ready for the day!

Samuel had helpful hands *(hold out your hands)*. **Every day he helped Priest Eli with his work in God's house. Samuel loved helping. It made his heart happy to know that every little job he did was helping Eli. And every little job he did was helping God!**





Swish, swish, swish **went the broom** *(pretend to sweep)*. **Samuel's job was to make sure everything was neat and clean. He used his little broom to sweep away the leaves the wind might blow into God's house. Samuel was very careful with his work. He didn't rush or miss things. He made sure he finished his jobs well.**



Rub, rub, rub **went little Samuel's cloth** *(pretend to polish)***. He used his cloth to polish the beautiful things used in God's house. He rubbed them until they sparkled. It made little Samuel's heart happy to know that He was helping God with so many different jobs. Whatever Samuel did, he did his very best work. "And the boy Samuel grew up serving the Lord"** (1 Samuel 2:21, ICB)**.**

Look at your hands. Did you know you can have helpful hands, as Samuel had? You can help your family by setting the table, or by putting the clothes away, or by making your bed. When you use your hands to help others, you are really helping God too! It makes Him smile when He sees us help each other and do our best for Him.

(Say together) **Thank You, God, for little Samuel's helpful hands. I want to be helpful to my family too.**



play throughout the Day

Create

Draw around your child's "helpful hands" on colored paper. Cut them out together. Point to each of the five fingers and thank your child for something helpful they do: "Thank you for your putting your socks on by yourself; thank you for picking up your toys;" etc.

Explore

Collect some rocks outside. Find an old cloth for your child to use to "polish" the rocks, just as Samuel cleaned and polished the items in the tabernacle. Use household items if you are unable to explore outside. Samuel always did his best—we can too!

Model

Choose a special job that would be new to your child and at their level (for example: make bed). Model how to do the job and then practice doing it together every day this week. Exclaim "You have such helpful hands!" when they finish the job.

Connect

Show your child something you have made, created, or repaired, that took both time and skill. Talk about how you did it with your helpful, careful hands. Share with your child how happy it makes you to know you did something well.

Pray

Share how Samuel helped both Eli and God when he used his hands to be helpful. Stop and say a prayer of thanks for your child's helpful hands whenever you see them do a job to help the family, or someone else, this week.



Extension weekly memory verse: "Give to everyone who asks of you" (Luke 6:30).



THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

No doubt, your hands are constantly in motion as helping hands. Clasp them together now. What a gift from God! You have been wonderfully created to be a contributor. God knows that we will find purpose and joy in giving and doing for others. "To perform every duty as unto the Lord throws a charm around the humblest employment and links the workers on earth with the holy beings who do God's will in heaven" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 574).

It does us well to remember this at the end of a long day, when hands, head, and heart have worked hard. In serving your family, you have served our Creator. Such a perspective puts rays of joyful light on those heavy tasks that never seem to end.

"Integrity in little things, the performance of little acts of fidelity and little deeds of kindness, will gladden the path of life; and when our work on earth is ended, it will be found that every one of the little duties faithfully performed has exerted an influence for good—an influence that can never perish" (Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 574).

Like Samuel's, your helpful hands matter. Your faithfulness, joy, and kindness in the *little* deeds you do this week make a difference. As you go about your work this week, remember that you are working for the Lord.

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23, 24).



