

SERMON NOTES



This week's sermon
GIVE HIM THE CHILDREN
1 Samuel 1:1-28

11 And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head."

3 Truths We Should Learn From Hannah's Story

A. God designs and uses distress in our lives for His purposes.

The Bible teaches that pain in the life of God's faithful ones is never wasted, and, ultimately, always for our good. What the Bible does not teach is that we will never have distress.

B. Children are a gift from the Lord.

C. Giving children up for ministry pleases God.

Applications

1. Bring your children to worship and teach them how serious it is to honor God.
2. Join in on the job of teaching the children.
3. Send them out; let them go.

Digging Deeper into the Message

Read 1 Samuel 1:1-29 and answer the questions that follow.

Who closed Hannah's womb? (v 5-6)

How long was Hannah unable to have children?

What did Elkanah say to comfort his wife? Do you think this was effective?

What was Hannah's prayer in verse 11, in your own words?

Did Eli guarantee that Hannah would have a child in verse 17?

Then, why do you think Hannah was comforted? (v 18)

Why did Hannah name him Samuel?

What do you think Hannah was feeling when she gave her son to service with Eli?

What are some of the most important, precious things in your life? Write them below. Then spend some time surrendering them to God.

Community Group

ICEBREAKER: What is your middle name? Do you know why your parents gave you that name?

QUESTIONS

- ❖ Read point A on the MAP and its sub-point. Who caused Hannah's distress? When did Hannah's peace come – before or after her prayer was answered?
- ❖ Can you think of a time when God used your suffering for good? Did God give you peace throughout the process and if so, when?
- ❖ Is there any suffering you are going through right now that perhaps you'll be able to look back upon and see how God used it for your good?
- ❖ Read point B on the MAP. How does our culture view children, and how does God view them? How do you need to change your thinking to be more like God in this area?
- ❖ Read point C on the MAP. Parents, how would you feel if one of your children became a missionary?
- ❖ Have you ever surrendered your children to God? Do you need to do it again?
- ❖ Read the 3 applications on the MAP. List some practical ways you can teach your children to worship and honor God in your home. (Even if you aren't a parent yet, you can already be planning to do this if and when you have children!)

APPLICATION: Pray and think about how you need to change your thinking to be more like God's thinking when it comes to the issues of **a: the value of children in general, b: surrendering your own children to God, and c: teaching your children to worship while in your home.**