

## **Small Group Study Questions**

Sermon on February 11, 2024

## Judges 21:25 (NASB)

25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

## 1 Samuel 1:1-18 (NASB)

1 Now there was a man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. 2 And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

3 Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of armies in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests to the LORD there. 4 When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; 5 but to Hannah he would give a double portion, because he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb. 6 Her rival, moreover, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. 7 And it happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, that she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat. 8 Then Elkanah her husband would say to her, "Hannah, why do you weep, and why do you not eat, and why is your heart sad? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

9 Then Hannah got up after eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. 10 She, greatly distressed, prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. 11 And she made a vow and said, "LORD of armies, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your bond-servant and remember me, and not forget Your bond-servant, but will give Your bond-servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head."

12 Now it came about, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli was watching her mouth. 13 As for Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips were quivering, but her voice was not heard. So Eli thought that she was drunk. 14 Then Eli said to her, "How long will you behave like a drunk? Get rid of your wine!" 15 But Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman Adespairing in spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have poured out my soul before the LORD. 16 Do not consider your bond-servant a useless woman, for I have spoken until now out of my great concern and provocation." 17 Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your request that you have asked of Him." 18 She said, "Let your bond-servant find favor in your sight." So the woman went on her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

1 Samuel 1:25-28 (NASB)

1 Samuel 2:1-10 (NASB)

1 Peter 5:5-7 (NASB)

DIGGING DEEPER
Have you ever been misunderstood in a prayer or worship of God by another person? Tell us about it.
Has there been a prayer, current or in the past, you have continually brought before the Lord? Tell us about it.
Read 1 Samuel 1:11 Have you ever made or been tempted to make a similar promise if God answered your prayer?
Read 1 Samuel 1:20-28 Would you be tempted to not fulfill your vow once your request was answered? Why or why not?
Read 1 Samuel 2:1-5 How is this prayer starting similarly to Nehemiah's prayer from last week? (Nehemiah 1:5-11)
How does this prayer reflect Hannah's understanding of God's character and power?
Read 1 Samuel 2:6-10 What are the characteristics of those whom God exalts?

DIGGING DEEPER
What's the warning in verses 9 & 10?
What are some specific ways we can cultivate a spirit of gratitude, praise, and humility like Hannah, in our daily lives?
How does Hannah's prayer point us to the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises in Jesus Christ?
TAKING IT HOME
PRAYER REQUEST