



Sermon Guide: Hannah: Waiting 01/11/26

Text(s): 1 Samuel 1:1-18

Big Idea: *In God's presence, our waiting becomes the place where want is transformed into worship.*

Summary of the Sermon - We meet Hannah in a season of deep ache, where longing, misunderstanding, and delay press in on her faith. Hannah brings the full weight of her emotions honestly before God, and discovers that as she prays she is able to entrust her desire to the sovereign Lord of hosts, who has the power to change both her heart and her circumstances. God meets Hannah not first by giving an answer, but by giving peace, showing us that His sustaining presence can transform us even while we wait.

Discussion Questions

1. Where have you, or do you currently feel the ache of waiting most strongly in your life?
2. Which emotions from Hannah's prayer—anxiety, bitterness, vexation, grief—do you most resonate with, and why?
3. In what ways have you, or are you tempted to let your circumstances define what you believe about God?
4. What "wants" might God be reordering in your heart during this season?
5. How does Hannah's use of the title *Lord of hosts* shape the way you think about God's sovereignty in your waiting?
6. In what ways do Elkanah's words reveal a desire to solve Hannah's pain instead of understanding it, and where do you see that tendency in yourself?
7. What would it look like for you to entrust the outcome of your situation to God, even if it remains unresolved?
8. What practices help you discern which voices deserve authority in your life?
9. Hannah was misunderstood even while praying faithfully—how do you handle it when your pain or faith is misread by others?