

Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to experience real life & real impact.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Praying for Real - Feb. 21, 2016

- 1. Take some time to share about how God has been working in and through you this past week using the B.L.E.S.S. habits questions.
 - How has the Gospel been a Blessing to you this week?
 - What are you hearing from God as you Listen to the Spirit & read God's Word, the Bible?
 - Who have you had an opportunity to Eat with this week to build relationship?
 - Who has God led you to Serve this week?
 - In what ways have you been able to **Share** about Jesus this week?
- 2. What was most helpful about this message on authentic prayer? What was your most significant takeaway?
- 3. Read 1 Samuel 1:1-20. What do you learn about Hannah from this passage? In what way can you identify with her situation? Have you had an experience where you have prayed for something for a long time? What did you learn from this?
- 4. Why do we often find it hard to be real with God and persevere in prayer? How does Gen. 3:6-10 speak to this? In what ways do we "hide" from God?
- 5. How does the birth of Samuel abolish the shame Hannah felt? How does this foreshadow the "true and better Samuel = Jesus" who abolishes our shame? How does the coming of Jesus impact our ability to be "real" with God and others?
- 6. Read Hebrews 10:19-23. What does this passage tell us about God? What does this passage tell us about us? How do we apply this passage?
- 7. What truths about the Gospel encourage and empower us to be real with God and persevere in prayer? What actions steps do you need to take today?



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SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Praying for Real

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor February 21, 2016



1 Samuel 1:1-20

1 Samuel 1:9-11 Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. ¹⁰ Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the Lord. ¹¹ And she made this vow: "O Lord of Heaven's Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the Lord, his hair will never be cut."

What can we learn from Hannah about prayer?

Big Idea: Be real with God as you persevere in prayer.

Hebrews 10:19-23 And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. ²⁰ By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. ²¹ And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, ²² let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.