



## Part 1 - Hannah's Prayer

August 24th, 2025

**Scriptures:** 1 Samuel 1; Matthew 5:4, 6:10, 6:33; Philippians 4:4-7

**Main Idea:** Hannah's story reminds us that seeking God's Kingdom means surrendering our deepest longings to Him, trusting His nearness and faithfulness.

→ The stories of Samuel, Saul and David in 1 & 2 Samuel invite us to ask:  
*Whose kingdom am I seeking?*

### 1. Where does 1 & 2 Samuel fit in God's overall story?

Exodus → Joshua → Judges → Ruth → **1 & 2 Samuel** → 1 & 2 Kings

- After God freed His people and gave them the promised land, Israel quickly turned to foreign gods. In the midst of that growing darkness, Ruth showed loyal faith in the God of Israel. 1 Samuel begins just after the Judges—when Israel's heart was far from God.

#### Israel's spiritual reality during the time of Judges:<sup>1</sup>

"The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD"

"In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit"

**Sermon Quote:** *"1 Samuel 1 isn't just some random story about a barren woman praying for a son. We're seeing God's plan in action! While Israel was busy being unfaithful, God was at work through the loyalty of Ruth and the faithful cries of Hannah."*

### 2. Hannah's Anguish — 1 Samuel 1:1-8

- Elkanah, Hannah and Peninnah
- Peninnah would taunt Hannah for her barrenness, leaving Hannah overcome with grief, "weeping bitterly" (v.10)

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<sup>1</sup> Judges 2:11, 3:7, 3:12, 4:1, 6:1, 10:6, 13:1, 17:6, 21:25

→ **Hannah's story** is a good reminder that even people who seem faithful on the outside can be breaking on the inside. (see Matthew 5:4)

### 3. Hannah's Prayer — 1 Samuel 1:9-18

- Hannah's prayer wasn't bargaining but an act of faith. Her deepest longing was to be part of God's story.
- God gave her Samuel, the prophet who would prepare the way for Israel's kings.

→ Hannah's vow wasn't about erasing shame—it was about **participating in God's story**. How will we pray in our moments of deep pain?

### 4. God's Faithfulness — 1 Samuel 1:19-28

- Hannah gave birth to Samuel (sounds like: "*heard by God*" in Hebrew)
- She wasn't *abandoning* her only son but *entrusting* him into God's hands
- God can relate—He gave His only Son, *Immanuel* (meaning: "God with us")

### 5. The Lord's Peace — Philippians 4:4-7

- *Remember* — the LORD is near.
- *Pray* — it's okay to ask God our "why" questions
- *Know* — the peace of God stands guard over our hearts and minds

→ Seeking God's Kingdom means **surrendering our story** for His larger story.

### 6. Going Deeper:

- **READ 1 Samuel 1:7-8.** When have you felt like Hannah—misunderstood, humiliated, or carrying a burden no one else seemed to understand?
- **READ 1 Samuel 1:11 & Matthew 6:10.** What are some ways we may be tempted to bargain with God in prayer, and how is that different from Hannah's surrender?
- **READ Philippians 4:6-7 & 1 Samuel 1:18.** How does Philippians 4:6–7 help us understand the kind of peace Hannah experienced in verse 18, even before her circumstances changed?