



AWCI SERMON NOTE & *Announcements*

DATE: May 10th, 2026

SPEAKER: Bishop (Dr) Vincent Collins

SERMON TITLE: A MOTHER OF FAITH

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SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 1:3–17 (NKJV)

3 This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of hosts in Shiloh. Also the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the Lord, were there. 4 And whenever the time came for Elkanah to make an offering, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. 5 But to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, although the Lord had closed her womb. 6 And her rival also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the Lord had closed her womb. 7 So it was, year by year, when she went up to the house of the Lord, that she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat.

Hannah's Vow

8 Then Elkanah her husband said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? And why is your heart grieved? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

9 So Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the Lord. 10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the Lord and wept in anguish. 11 Then she made a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head."

12 And it happened, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli watched her mouth. 13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk. 14 So Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!"

15 But Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord. 16 Do not consider your maidservant a wicked woman, for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken until now."

17 Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him."

1 Samuel 2:1–11 (NKJV) 1 "And Hannah prayed and said: 'My heart rejoices in the Lord; My horn is exalted in the Lord. I smile at my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation.'" Verse 2 "No one is holy like the Lord, For there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God." Verse 3 "Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the Lord is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed." Verse 4 "The bows of the mighty men are broken, And those who stumbled are girded with strength."

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

On this Mother's Day, we celebrate more than just the role of a mother—we celebrate the faith of a mother. Because when you study Scripture, you discover that some of the greatest moves of God were birthed through the faith of a woman...the faith of a mother.

The Bible reminds us in Hebrews 11 that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Faith is not just something we talk about—it is something we live by.

Today, we look into the life of Hannah. Her story is not just about motherhood; it is about faith under pressure. And if there is anything we can learn from Hannah, it is this: **Faith will always move you to the right place.**

SERMON POINTS

I. Take Your Pain to the Right Place — Believe God by Faith

1 Samuel 1:10: "And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the Lord and wept in anguish..."
Psalm 34:17 — "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles."
1 Peter 5:7 — "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."
Your pain is not meant to destroy you—it's meant to drive you to God.

II. Pour Out Your Soul—Not Just Your Words — Pray in Faith

1 Samuel 1:15: "I have poured out my soul before the Lord..."
Psalm 62:8 — "Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us."
Hebrews 4:15–16 — "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses... Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

III. Release What You're Believing For Back to God — Commit Your Situation to God (Release in Faith)

1 Samuel 1:11: "Then I will give him to the Lord..."
Proverbs 16:3 — "Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established."
Luke 6:38 — "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom."
What you release to God, He multiplies back with purpose.

IV. Give God The Praise For All He Has Done

“My heart rejoices in the Lord...” (1 Samuel 2:1)

Psalm 30:5 — “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

Isaiah 61:3 — “To give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness...”

In 1 Samuel 2:1–11, Hannah lifted her voice in praise—not just for the gift of a child, but for the greatness of God. Her song celebrates God’s sovereignty, justice, and mercy.

Praise is the natural overflow of a heart that has seen God’s faithfulness.

BEYOND THE MESSAGE

The application for our lives is this: when pressure, pain, disappointment, or delay shows up, we must allow our faith to move us closer to God instead of pulling us away from Him. Hannah teaches us that real faith does not deny pain, but it refuses to let pain have the final word. She was hurt, provoked, misunderstood, and still waiting—yet she kept bringing her heart back to the presence of God.

That means we cannot allow what we are going through to make us stop praying, stop worshiping, stop serving, or stop believing. The place of pain must become the place of prayer.

Beyond the message, this challenges us to ask: **Where is my pain pushing me?** Is it pushing me into bitterness, isolation, silence, and frustration? Or is it pushing me into deeper prayer, greater surrender, stronger worship, and renewed trust in God?

Hannah’s breakthrough began when she stopped carrying her burden silently and poured it out before the Lord. In the same way, our faith grows when we take what is heavy in our hearts and place it in the hands of God. Real faith says, “Lord, I may not understand it yet, but I still trust You. I may not see it yet, but I still believe You. I may be hurting, but I am still coming to You.”

Don’t judge your story in chapter one, because God is still writing chapter two. What you see right now is not the final outcome—it’s only part of the process. What feels like delay is often divine preparation, where God is strengthening your faith, developing your character, and aligning everything for what you’ve been believing Him for.

Instead of becoming discouraged, trust His timing and recognize that He is working behind the scenes even when you cannot see it. While you’re waiting, praise God in advance for what He is about to do—because faith doesn’t wait for the manifestation to respond; it rejoices in expectation.

When you begin to thank God ahead of time, you shift from doubt to confidence, positioning your heart to receive what He has already set in motion—knowing that the best is still yet to come.

Don’t suppress what you’re going through—surrender it. Trying to hold everything in may seem like strength, but it often creates pressure beneath the surface that eventually overwhelms you. God never designed you to carry your burdens alone or hide what you feel. Surrender is not weakness—it is an act of trust.

When you release your pain, your questions, and your struggles to God, you invite Him into the very place where you need Him most. What you stop suppressing and start surrendering becomes the very place where God begins to work deeply in your life.

And instead of explaining your situation to everyone else first, learn to take it to God. People may listen, but only God can fully understand, heal, and direct. When God becomes your first conversation instead of your last option, He gives you clarity, peace, and direction that no one else can provide.

NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note: *There are multiple ways to sign up for an event. You can scan the QR code, visit our website, or sign the sign-up sheet in the foyer under the event registration section.*

Read the Bible in a Year.

Scan QR code or visit the following site:
<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/64913-we-believe-a-journey-of-faith-in-action>



April 8- May 13 at 6:30 pm- Unleash- A Tony Evans Bible Study Series

May 24th at 9am &/or 11am - Family & Friends Day-

Modified services with time for food, fun, fellowship, games, and connection.

June 2nd at 6:30 pm- 2nd Quarter Church Leadership Training. Open to all leaders and those interested in church leadership.

June 7-10, 2026- SC Church of God Camp Meeting- at Church of God Convention Center located at 306 Monrow Dr Simpsonville, SC, 29681
Service Times are:

- Sunday at 6:00 pm
- Monday-Wednesday Mornings at 10:00 am
- Monday - Wednesday at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday Evening Ordination Service at 6:30 pm

SAVE THE DATES:

More information coming soon!

Men’s & Women’s Breakout Bible Study Sessions

Wednesdays, May 20th – June 24th at 6:30pm

The Women’s Lesson will be Women in Waiting. The Men’s Lesson will be “Built To Stand”.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)-June 16–18, 2026 at 6:30pm

Fun, faith, and fellowship for our children—excitingly learning about Jesus!

Student Grade Promotions / Graduate Recognition- June 14th, during the 11 am service. You can complete the recognition form online. by visiting our website.

Father’s Day Celebration- June 21, 2026

Celebrating the strength, leadership, and legacy of fathers.

Water Baptism Service

- June 28th after 11:00 AM service

Let’s Connect Sundays

- Join us on the 4th Sunday in June (28th), July (26th) & August (23rd)
- Dress down, connect with a different group in the church, and join in the fellowship and fun.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

Sunday School

- Every Sunday at 10:10 am-10:55 am.

Men’s Ministry Meeting

- Every 3rd Saturday at 8:30 AM.
- At Agape Worship Center International
- All men are invited.

More information: Contact Bro. Charlton Gentles & Bro. James Bennett

Youth Evening Gathering (Every 4th Sunday)

- Ages 13-18
- 4:00 PM–6:00 PM

Breakfast For Champions: Weekday Devotion & Prayer

- Monday-Friday at 7 am
- Call In: 717-908-1690
 - Access Code: 577625

Intercessory Prayer

- Every 1st, 2nd, and 4th Monday at 6:30 pm-7:30 pm

Virtual MIDDAY Bible Study

- Every Thursday at noon
 - Call In: (650)419-1505 (US East)
 - Meeting ID: 393-678-9202
 - Virtual:meetings.ringcentral.com/j/3936789202