

WHEN MOTHERS PRAY: STRENGTH IN THE WAITING

"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." - James 5:16

Motherhood and Mother's Day can hold both joy and sorrow. For some, it is a season of fulfillment. For others, it carries grief, longing, or unanswered prayers. Whether you are raising children, waiting, grieving, or pouring into others in ministry, this truth remains:

God sees you. God hears you. God is at work.

Trevor and I were fairly young when we were married. We were both pursuing degrees at the time and were in no rush to start a family. After three, going on four years, folks started to wonder. One of our dear older ministers, whom we loved, approached Trevor and said (not asked), but said: "You know, Bro. Trevor, it's a sin to withhold yourself from your wife." And like all good ministers, probably even quoted Psalm 127:3 to Trevor: "Children are an heritage of the Lord - the fruit of the womb is his reward." He didn't know that we had decided to wait.

The reality is that there are always those among us who desire to be mothers but have never married, couples who have been trying for some time to have children but to no avail, and mothers who may have lost children either through miscarriage, sickness, or sheer misfortune. Whatever your reality is, my prayer is that God will speak to and encourage your heart.

Sometimes we don't understand why God allows or doesn't allow some things that we so desperately want in our lives. But if you look at the pattern of Scripture, you should know this for certain - **God is always up to something**. He just wants us to trust, obey, and wait upon him. The story of Hannah in 1 Samuel reminds us that even in seasons of silence, **God is never absent; He is intentional.**

Hannah's Story: When God Is Working Beneath the Surface

The account in 1 Samuel doesn't provide the medical background for Hannah's story. All we know is that the Lord had closed her womb. We also know that emotionally, this overwhelmed Hannah and threw her into depression.

Hannah's pain was visible: her barrenness, her tears, her waiting were seen by others. But what was unseen was even more powerful: **God was preparing a miracle with generational impact**. Throughout Scripture, when God opens and closes wombs, He is doing something greater than the immediate situation. Hannah didn't just endure her pain; she brought it before the Lord. Hannah reminds us that **our suffering is not in vain when it drives us closer to God**. Her prayer was deep, honest, and surrendered, and God moved.

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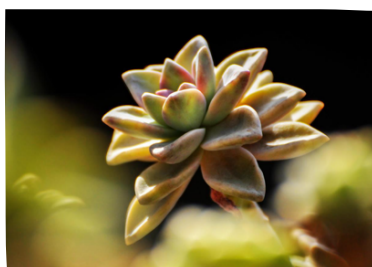
Motherhood Is Spiritual Work

At some point, we must embrace this truth: **Motherhood is spiritual business.** Hannah understood this. She didn't just ask for a child; she dedicated the answer back to God. As mothers in ministry, we are:

- Covering our families in prayer
- Interceding for future generations
- Partnering with God in His divine purposes

I know we don't live in those days when you can just drop your young child off at the church doors, hand him to the pastor, and say, "Here, you raise him" (of course, some of you might have been tempted to do that at some point with your kids). But Hannah literally gives her son Samuel, the one she prayed for, over to the service of the Lord all the days of his life. She understood God's nature and character, that He could be trusted.

The Power of a Praying Mother



A praying mother is like a **succulent**—able to retain strength in dry seasons.

- When life feels barren, she holds living water.
- When pressure comes, she endures.
- When answers delay, she keeps praying.

Every home needs a praying woman. Even when conditions are harsh, the power of God deep within us, sustains us. Many of us have mothers, fathers, grandparents who labored in prayer for us because they saw more than their current situation. They saw hope and promise in what another generation would bring to the world. So, they prayed, fasted and interceded for us. And that's why we have to do the same—**there is power in prayer.**

From Prayer to Discipleship: Multiplying What God Is Doing

Hannah's story does not end with answered prayer, it continues through impact. The son she prayed for, Samuel, became a prophet who helped guide a nation. Her private prayers produced public transformation. As mothers in ministry, our prayers are not only shaping our homes—they are forming us into **women who disciple other women.**

When you have prayed through waiting, trusted God in uncertainty, and walked through grief, disappointment, or delay, you carry something others need. Your story becomes someone else's roadmap. Your prayers become someone else's covering.

A praying mother doesn't just raise children, she raises disciples. Just as Hannah modeled surrender, by example, we teach other women how to seek God personally, pray with boldness, and trust His timing.

Your Waiting Is Not Wasted

Hannah's story reminds us:

- God is always working
- Your pain has purpose
- Your prayers have power

Sometimes the answer looks different than expected, but it is always aligned with God's greater plan. God is always up to something. Your prayer life may feel small, but like a seed, it will grow. When mothers pray, families are strengthened. When mothers disciple, generations are transformed. **Because when mothers pray, God moves.**



A Closing Prayer

Lord,
Strengthen every mother reading this.
Meet her in her waiting, her wondering, and her worship.
Grow her faith, deepen her prayer life, and use her to disciple others.
Let her life bear fruit that reaches beyond her home and
into generations.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Aileen Reid

WHAT MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME

(author unknown)

My mother taught me RELIGION: When I spilled grape juice on the carpet, she instructed, "You better pray the stain will come out of the carpet."

My mother taught me LOGIC: From her decisive words, "Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me FORESIGHT: "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."

My mother taught me IRONY: "Keep laughing, and I'll give you something to cry about."

My mother taught me about STAMINA: "You'll sit there 'til all that spinach is finished."

My mother taught me about WEATHER: "It looks as if a tornado swept through your room."

My mother taught me THE CIRCLE OF LIFE: "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."...

Women's Ministry Leaders Directory

Help Us Build a Women's Ministry Leaders Directory

We are prayerfully working to develop a **Women's Ministry Leaders Directory** to strengthen connection, communication, and collaboration among women serving in leadership across our churches.

This directory will help us:

- Encourage one another in ministry
- Share resources and best practices
- Strengthen discipleship efforts
- Foster meaningful relationships among leaders
- Improve communication regarding trainings, gatherings, and ministry opportunities

We kindly ask you to take a few minutes to submit your local church information. Your participation will help us build a stronger network of support for women serving in ministry.

Please have your women's ministry leader (and/or each team member) complete this form: [Florida Women's Ministry Leader Directory](#)

Together, we can continue building strong and healthy ministries that impact lives for Christ.



Click or Scan Code
to complete form

International Assembly

Help Us Welcome Our International Delegates with Love

As our delegates arrive for our International Assembly, we have a beautiful opportunity to show the heart of Christ through practical care and encouragement. One meaningful way we can do this is by providing **Welcome Bags** filled with essential items, thoughtful gifts, and messages of support to help them in their ministry assignments.

We are inviting each local church to partner with us by contributing **\$50-\$100** toward this special initiative. Your gift will help us prepare bags that communicate appreciation, hospitality, and prayerful support for our international presbytery.

Together, we can ensure that every delegate feels valued, supported, and warmly received from the very beginning.

To participate, please submit your church's contribution by **May 15, 2026** via check or through our online giving. Please indicate in memo field: Assembly Welcome Bag.

[GIVE](#)

Click here to give

For more information or to give, contact Aileen Reid or Frankie Dotson in the State Office.

Thank you for helping us extend Christ's love in tangible ways.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

4	Lorna Capron	21	Olive Eldon
8	Lorna Brown	22	Celanise LaGuerre
9	Ingrid White	23	Elsa Johnson
12	Aaleah Downs	26	Rona Palmer
19	Yvanne Loriston	29	Stephanie Williams

Birthday Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the gift of my sisters' lives and the grace You have placed upon their calling. As they celebrate another year, renew their strength and fill them with Your peace and joy. "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you" (Numbers 6:24-26).

Bless the work of their hands, the thoughts of their mind, and the desires of their heart as they align with Your will. May they continue to grow in love, faith, and service, and may their life be a testimony of Your goodness.

Cover them with wisdom, protect their heart, and reward their faithfulness—seen and unseen. May they continue to be "clothed with strength and dignity" and face the days ahead with confidence in You (Proverbs 31:25). Bless their coming and going and let this new year overflow with Your favor and rest.

In Jesus' name, Amen.





Happy
MOTHER'S
DAY!