

Women of the Bible

Lesson 2: HANNAH “Pray Through It”

Objective: Prioritize prayer in tough life situations through consistent prayer

Introduction: I Samuel chapter one has an abundance of life issues. It is truly amazing how one person goes through various types of situations and emotions surrounding one circumstance. This is the storyline in chapter one.

Scripture Lesson:

Read I Samuel 1:1-18

Hannah – A Woman Who Believed in Prayer

Issues in this text: Relationships, Worship, Man’s Love, Jealousy, Bitterness, Receiving Love, Blessings, Prayer, Marriage, Raising Children, Ability to bear Children, Sadness

From the above, chose one issue that you would focus on: _____

In order to develop a consistent prayer life, you should:

I. Practice Family Worship Time, vs. 1-5

Marital Relationship, vs. 2

1. Man – Elkanah
2. Two Wives: Hannah and Peninnah – Deut. 21:15-17

Within the Relationship is devoted worship, vs. 3 – Ex. 34:13, Deut. 12:5-7

1. Distribution of blessings: Peninnah one portion, and Hannah two

QUESTION: What do you think worship did for Elkanah’s family?

2. Her husband Elkanah loved her

QUESTION: What is a man’s love to a woman like?

QUESTION: How should the woman receive that love?

II. Practice Focused Worship, vs. 6-8

A. Woman’s Adversary/Rival, vs. 6

1. Provoked her bitterly

QUESTION: What does it mean to be bitter?

2. Hannah womb being closed – Genesis 16:1 – Sarah

QUESTION: Why do you think God chose women who were barren? What emotions are attached to Hannah's physical limitation?

B. Dealing with Adversary

1. Yearly provoked even during worship

NOTE: In the midst of worship, there was a focus on God while at the same time dealing with the attack of the enemy.

2. Being provoked lead to bitter crying and non-eating

C. Male Sensitivity, vs. 8 – Why are you weeping?

Elkanah feels he is better to her than ten sons/children. Is that a fair/sensitive question? Ruth 4:15

III. Practice Crying Out to the Lord, vs. 9-11

A. Distressed Praying vs. 9-10

1. She was distressed – What is that feeling?
2. However, she prayed to the Lord

QUESTION: What lets you know that Hannah had faith?

B. She made a vow to the Lord, vs. 11

QUESTION: What type of prayer did Hannah pray?

1. Request to have a son
2. Promise to give him to the Lord

QUESTION: What made Hannah's prayer so impactful before the throne of God?

C. Priestly insensitivity, vs. 12

1. Hannah was continually praying

QUESTION: How do you pray it through despite how you feel? Feelings of distress, bitter, bareness

2. Eli, the priest, assumed she was drunk, vs. 13
 - a. How long will you make yourself drunk?
 - b. Hannah poured out her soul to the Lord, vs. 15

IV. Practice Anticipatory Prayer, vs. 15-18

Expect God to Answer Your Prayers

Hannah spoke a great concern to the Lord, vs. 16

1. Petition God within your relationship
2. Expect God to grant your petition, vs. 17

Walk/Live in Favor

1. Rose from her previous state
2. Ate food
3. Her countenance changed – Romans 15:13

CONCLUSION:

HANNAH WAS ABLE TO COUNT ON PRAYER BECAUSE:

1. She prayed sins to be forgiven – Ps. 66:13-19
2. Pleading in God's name, acknowledging His greatness – John 16:24
3. Being very humble and acknowledging her own nothingness
4. Formulating a clear, well-defined petition – Matthew 7:7-11
5. Desiring that God's will be done – I John 5:14-15
6. Praying in faith – Hebrews 11:6; Mt. 21:22