

## Growing as the Family of God

## 5. Prayer

## 1 Samuel 1:9-20 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord's house. <sup>10</sup> In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. <sup>11</sup> And she made a vow, saying, "Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

<sup>12</sup> As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk <sup>14</sup> and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine."

<sup>15</sup> "Not so, my lord," Hannah replied, "I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. <sup>16</sup> Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief."

<sup>17</sup> Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."

<sup>18</sup> She said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

<sup>19</sup> Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. <sup>20</sup> So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the Lord for him."

## NOTES:

## Pray with Boldness

*Hannah stood up...v.9*

*Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with **boldness**, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16 (NRSV)*

*"The Bible pray-ers prayed as if their prayers could and would make an objective difference." -Richard J. Foster, Celebration of Discipline*

## Pray with Passion

*In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. v.10 "I am a woman who is deeply troubled...I have been pouring out my soul to the Lord...I have been praying out of my great anguish and grief." v.15-16*

*"The crisis of our prayer life is that our mind may be filled with ideas of God while our heart remains far from him. Real prayer comes from the heart." -Henri Nouwen, The Way of the Heart*

## Pray with Faith

*Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast. v.18*

*Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24 (NIV)*

*Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. James 5:13-15 (NIV)*

## NOTES: