

## Communion Meditation – Hannah’s Prayer

1 Sam 1.19-20      “God Answers Prayer”      January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### Hannah’s Character

- We’ve not been told of Hannah’s character – (e.g., “**Hannah was godly**”)
  - We’re left to infer Hannah’s character (**Read vss 6-7**)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> msg – Doesn’t attack rival Peninnah (**v7** – “she wept and did not eat”)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> msg – In **v10** “in bitterness of soul” she “prayed and wept in anguish”

### Hannah’s Request

- God’s sovereignty was twice affirmed in **v5,6** “the Lord had closed her womb”
- Hannah was “in bitterness of soul .. prayed .. wept in anguish” (**v10**)
- **Read v11** ~ Hannah acknowledges God’s sovereignty in request

### Hannah’s Change – Went Away in Peace

- Hannah poured out her anguish to God in prayer (**v10**)
  - She acknowledged God’s power and sovereign choice over her life
  - Eli confronted her and she shared her anguish with him (**v14-17**)
- **v18** ~ “her face was no longer sad”
- I said she left Shiloh “hopeful” / Perhaps “peaceful” or “relieved” better

### Making Requests of God

- **Heb 11.6 says** ~ “.. he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”
- There is no magic formula for getting a “yes” out of God
- God is a Person with His own mind that far surpasses our own – Yet . . .
- **Psalm 37.4 says** ~ “Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

**Hannah named her son Samuel which literally means “heard by God”**

**Hannah went away in peace because she knew she’d been heard  
God may or may not have then given her the son she wanted . . .**

**God loves His children and wants what’s best for them**

**God knows us far better than we know ourselves, or one another . . .**

**We seek to be “heard by God” yet we must first “hear Him” in faith**