



1 Samuel 1 Sunday, May 9, 2021

The most important attribute of a mother is her faithfulness to God and her family. Through the story of a woman named Hannah, we can see six essential actions that contributed to her dedication to God.

An African proverb says, "The ruin of a nation begins in the homes of its people,"

Setting the Scene:

- The name "Hannah" means "a woman of grace."
- *Babies are God's announcement that He knows the need, cares about His people, and is at work on their behalf. The arrival of a baby ushers in new life and a new beginning; babies are signposts to the future, and their conception and birth is a miracle that only God can do (Gen. 30:1-2)*¹
- *While bigamy and divorce were not prohibited by Jewish law (Deut. 21:15-17; 24:1-4), God's original plan was that one man be married to one woman for one lifetime (Mark 10:1-9).*²
- God has given the responsibility and authority to be parents who love and teach their children to live in obedience and discipline according to the Word of God.

1. Hannah worshiped with her husband. (vs. 3-4)

- Each year Elkanah brought his family to Shiloh for worship and participated in a meal as part of his worship.

2. Hannah had a good and healthy relationship with her husband. (vs. 5-8,19)

- A married man is to love his wife as Christ loved the church ([Ephesians 5:25](#)). Biblically, a husband prioritizes his relationship with God first and out of that flows a strong love for his wife. The principle is that a woman's husband is second only to God in her priorities. ([Ephesians 5:22](#).) Each is putting each other over yourself in mutual submission. (Submit your attitude to God, Honor, and respect, Helpful and supportive, maintain a healthy emotional and physical relationship)
- The biblical balance allows God to empower us to meet all of our relationship priorities, inside and outside our families.
- God turned her tears to hope and molded her character and faith to give her best to God. Notice she went right to the Lord with her anguish and difficulties and did not respond to Peninnah. Hannah desired to bring glory to God.

3. Hannah was a woman of prayer. (vs. 9-10)

- Bring your pain before God and cry out. Her prayer was born out of her pain and sorrow. Despite all of that, she was honest before the Lord. Her prayer was of surrender and sacrifice. (Nazirite Vow, Numbers 6)

1:9 Hannah got up Hannah is portrayed as the paragon of faith among the women of the Hebrew Bible. No other woman in the OT goes to the house of Yahweh (except Peninnah, by inference).³

"In prayer, it is better to have a heart without words, than words without a heart." -John Bunyan

⁴ **cried out** to the LORD, and **he answered me** from his holy mountain. Psalm 3:4

- She exchanged self-pity to hope.

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (2001). [Be successful](#) (p. 14). Colorado Springs, CO: Victor/Cook Communications.

² Wiersbe, W. W. (2001). [Be successful](#) (p. 14). Colorado Springs, CO: Victor/Cook Communications.

³ Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). [Faithlife Study Bible](#) (1 Sa 1:9). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

4. Hannah dedicated herself to the Lord. (vs. 11-18)

Survey Says . . .

According to a survey taken of Christian leaders who have fallen morally, the following three observations were recorded in every single case.

1. They had stopped taking time alone with God.
2. They had no accountability in their personal lives.
3. They thought, "it could never happen to me".

"God can do more through one man (woman) who is 100% dedicated to Him than through 100 men (women) who are only 90% dedicated to Him."

-- Dawson Trotman

- Her life and possessions were dedicated to God. (vs. 11)

¹⁶Don't think I am a wicked woman! For I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow." 1 Samuel 1:16

- She received encouragement from the priest, Eli. (vs. 17)
- She resolved to leave the problem with God. Notice her actions in verse 18. (vs. 18)

5. Hannah dedicated her son to the Lord. (vs. 19-27)

The Hebrew word *sa-al* means "asked," and *sama* means "heard," and *el* is one of the names for God, so Samuel means "heard of God" or "asked of God." All his life, Samuel was both an answer to prayer and a great man of prayer.⁴

- She left a spiritual legacy for one of the greatest spiritual leaders of Israel. (vs 27)
- Hannah gave up what she wanted most – her son. She was dedicating her entire future to God.
- We know that Eli had allow level of spiritual leadership in his home, but she trusted in God to be with Samuel in an evil world. God would use these years to prepare him to guide a nation and move them forward spiritually.

6. Hannah demonstrated thanksgiving in her heart. (1 Samuel 2:1-11)

- She praised God for answering her prayer.
- She was confident in God's sovereignty
- She was thankful for what she had.
- God is our rock – firm, strong and unchanging.

Then Hannah prayed: "My heart rejoices in the LORD! The LORD has made me strong. Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me.² No one is holy like the LORD! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. 1 Samuel 2:1-2

²⁸Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: ²⁹"There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!" Proverbs 31:28-29

One last thought: Elkanah and Hannah had a godly home that honored the Lord, and they gave Him their best. We should never underestimate the spiritual leagacy and power we can leave our children.

⁴ Wiersbe, W. W. (2001). *Be successful* (p. 17). Colorado Springs, CO: Victor/Cook Communications.