

# And They Went to Worship the Lord Once More

When we cast our cares on the Lord we exchange our problems with His peace. For a special Mother's Day message, Stephanie Robinson walks through the story of Hannah and 3 things Hannah did when it came to her disappointment.

**1 Samuel 1:19 NLT** 1 There was a man named Elkanah who lived in Ramah in the region of Zuph in the hill country of Ephraim. He was the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, of Ephraim. 2 Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not. 3 Each year Elkanah would travel to Shiloh to worship and sacrifice to the LORD of Heaven's Armies at the Tabernacle. The priests of the LORD at that time were the two sons of Eli—Hophni and Phinehas. 4 On the days Elkanah presented his sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to Peninnah and each of her children. 5 And though he loved Hannah, he would give her only one choice portion because the LORD had given her no children. 6 So Peninnah would taunt Hannah and make fun of her because the LORD had kept her from having children. 7 Year after year it was the same—Peninnah would taunt Hannah as they went to the Tabernacle. Each time, Hannah would be reduced to tears and would not even eat. 8 "Why are you crying, Hannah?" Elkanah would ask. "Why aren't you eating? Why be downhearted just because you have no children? You have me—isn't that better than having ten sons?" 9 Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. 10 Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the LORD. 11 And she made this vow: "O LORD of Heaven's Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the LORD, his hair will never be cut." 12 As she was praying to the LORD, Eli watched her. 13 Seeing her lips moving but hearing no sound, he thought she had been drinking. 14 "Must you come here drunk?" he demanded. "Throw away your wine!" 15 "Oh no, sir!" she replied. "I haven't been

drinking wine or anything stronger. But I am very discouraged, and I was pouring out my heart to the LORD. 16Don't think I am a wicked woman! For I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow." 17"In that case," Eli said, "go in peace! May the God of Israel grant the request you have asked of him." 18"Oh, thank you, sir!" she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad. 19 The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the LORD once more

We have all found ourselves throughout life at times where disappointment was looking at us in the face. Where we walk through life and do what we feel like God has told us to do but yet life still isn't going how we planned. Hannah knew this better than anyone. Wanting nothing more than a child, she began to pray earnestly to God and it took Hannah taking a few extra steps in her walk. Let's look at 3 things Hannah does when it comes to her disappointment.

## 3 Things Hannah Did with Her Disappointment:

### 1. Understood it was between her and God.

1 Samuel 1:8 NIV "Why are you crying, Hannah?" Elkanah would ask. "Why aren't you eating? Why be downhearted just because you have no children? You have me—isn't that better than having ten sons?"

The quicker I realize that "God, it's you I need to bring the cares of this life to" the quicker my soul is at peace. Husbands, friends, and relatives weren't meant to carry our burden. Doesn't mean they can't be a great listener or there for us but I can really only get the peace I need from God. Everytime I go to God about what's just weighing me down, my situation may not change but I walk away believing that God is in control of my life and sees it ALL and I just choose to say I trust you.

Psalms 55:22 NIV Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous be shaken.

**When we cast our cares on the Lord we exchange our problems with His peace!**

## **Discussion Question 1: What's a time where you can remember turning over a situation to God?**

### **2. She was honest with God**

**1 Samuel 1:10-11 NIV** In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly. 11 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,"

God isn't upset with our honesty. God would rather us be openly honest with how we feel rather than try to hide our anger or sadness. God can handle our honesty better than anyone else.

**Matthew 11:28 NIV** "Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

**Our worry doesn't bring us away from God, it brings us closer to Him!**

**Psalms 62:8 NIV** Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge.

Hannah had a moment with God and didn't hide her feelings. She was honest with God about her disappointment. She poured out her heart to God.

## **Discussion Question 2: What is something you've tried to hide from God in the past?**

### 3. Remained faithful to what she knew and that was to worship the Lord once more

1 Samuel 1:19 NIV The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the LORD once more.

Even though her physical outcome had not yet changed, Hannah continued to worship the Lord. There was no physical change but she was determined in her heart to do what she knew would carry her through years of an unanswered prayer and that was to worship the Lord once more because He is worthy of our worship