

*The Dignity of Mothering*  
1 Samuel 1  
May 14, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

## 5 Observations about Motherhood

### 1. Motherhood is a \_\_\_\_\_ aspiration.

<sup>2</sup> He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

<sup>11</sup> . . . 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, . . .

1 Samuel 1:2, 11

### 2. A Mother's chief antagonist will likely be \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>6</sup> . . . her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. <sup>7</sup> This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. 1 Samuel 1:6b-7

### 3. Husbands will never understand \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>8</sup> Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?" 1 Samuel 1:8

### 4. A praying mother has \_\_\_\_\_.

"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>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." 1 Samuel 1:15b-17, 20

### 5. Preparing a child for a \_\_\_\_\_ to God is the highest calling of a mother.

<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,"

<sup>28</sup> So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD. 1 Samuel 1:11, 28

## Discussion Questions

1. What was your "take-away" from Sunday's message?
2. What do you remember most about your mom as a kid?
3. What promises have you made and NOT kept? Do you have any regrets about this decision? What promises have you made and kept?
4. Of the 5 Observations on Motherhood that Pastor Shawn shared during the message, which one(s) stood out to you the most?
5. Read 1 Samuel 1:8. Have you ever felt like Hannah, where no other person can meet the deep need in your soul? Be prepared to discuss.
6. Describe Hannah's prayer and her vow (vv. 9-11, 24-25). How hard to you think it was for Hannah to say what she said in verse 11 in giving back to God this child? Read Numbers 6:1-21. What was a Nazarite Vow? How might have Hannah's prayer been a Nazarite Vow?
7. Read 1 Samuel 1:19-20. Describe how Hannah's prayer was answered. What was the child named? What does this name mean? What does this reveal about how God can answer prayer today?
8. Why didn't Hannah go to the next yearly sacrifice?
9. What does Hannah's example teach us about keeping our promises, especially promises to God?

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