



**Series:** Pray

**Sermon:** Part 3: Desperate in Prayer

**Date:** Sunday, April 21st, 2024

What do you do when you have tried everything, all the doors keep closing, and you don't know what to do?

**Scripture referenced in sermon:** *1 Samuel 1:2-11 & 1 Samuel 2:12*

Even though things are hard, God is still in \_\_\_\_\_.

The problems that we face affect every aspect of our lives, including our relationship with God.

**In Hannah's Prayer She:**

- 1. Pleads with God to "remember me"**
- 2. Made a vow of surrender to God**

In faith, Hannah surrenders this son that she doesn't yet have and renounces everything that would have been beneficial to her about having a son.

*As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine." "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. Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief." (1 Samuel 1:12-16)*

When you pray do you pour out your soul to the Lord?

*Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of Him." She [Hannah] said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast. Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. (1 Samuel 1:17-19)*

Her joy and security was no longer dependent on whether or not she had a son. Instead, her joy and security was found in the Lord.

*Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. 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 1:19-20)*



When we go to God in \_\_\_\_\_ something shifts in us where we get to the point of trusting God with our life and outcomes, regardless if we get what we want or not.

**What Hannah Could Have Done:**

1. Hannah prays
2. Hannah gets pregnant
3. Hannah is joyful and her storms go away

**What Hannah Did Instead:**

1. Hannah prays
2. Hannah is joyful even though her storms and circumstances have not changed
3. Hannah gets pregnant

*My heart rejoices in the Lord... "There is no one Holy like the Lord; there is no one besides You; there is no Rock like our God." (1 Samuel 2:1-2)*

**Hannah's Story Teaches Us:**

**1. Most of our disappointments happen because we are seeking another savior or king to \_\_\_\_\_ us besides God**

**2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ than all our substitute saviors, kings, and idols**

**3. When we are in a season of barrenness, it doesn't mean that God doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ us or has forgotten us**

**Bottom Line:** *Even though things are hard, God is still in charge.*

**Questions to reflect on this week or with others:**

1. *What situation are you currently in where you are facing hopelessness like Hannah faced?*
2. *When you are in that place of hopelessness, which savior do you turn to in order to save and satisfy you?*
3. *In what ways do you need to surrender whatever it is that you feel hopeless about to God? How can you cry out in prayer to God as He becomes the One that satisfies you and gives you your identity and significance regardless of whether or not you get what you want?*
4. *How does it make you feel to know that barrenness does not mean God forsakenness?*

*Songs used in service: Give Me Faith (Elevation Worship), How Deep The Father's Love For Us (Stuart Townend), Jesus Paid It All (The Worship Initiative), Believe For It (CeCe Winans), Trust In God (Elevation Worship), Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Thomas Chisholm)*

-----Tear Here -----

**Any prayer requests?**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What can we be praying for you about?**