

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Samuel (Learning from a Remarkable Child)

Week 2: Dedication

1 Samuel 1:21-28

Week of May 16, 2021

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Hannah dedicated her son, Samuel, to the Lord. She gave him to Eli, the high priest, that he might be raised to serve the Lord at the tabernacle. Hannah's example challenges us to surrender all our lives to God's will and for God's glory.

Kicking it off: Because we are studying Samuel's toddler years, tell the group about the house/apartment you lived in during your toddler years.

Discussion:

1. Reread 1 Samuel 1:11 *Hannah made a vow, saying, "Lord Almighty, if you will only give me a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life."*

Hannah may have been bargaining with God. Why is bargaining with God a bad idea?

2. Reread 1 Samuel 1:21 *When Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go.*

At this point, Samuel has been born. Why do you think Hannah chose not to go to Shiloh?

3. Reread 1 Samuel 1:23 *"Whatever you think is best," Elkanah agreed. "Stay here for now, but may the Lord help you keep your promise."*

What wisdom can we gain from Elkanah's words to his wife?

4. Reread Hannah's words to Eli found in 1 Samuel 1:27 *"The Lord has granted me what I asked of him, so now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord."*

What does it mean when we "dedicate" our children to the Lord in a ceremony at church?

5. What will change when we view our money as belonging to the Lord?
6. What will change when we view our time as belonging to the Lord?
7. What part of your life do you struggle to dedicate to the Lord?

Wrapping It Up: Elkanah said, *"May the Lord help you keep your promise."* Ask the Lord, in prayer, to help you make decisions that reflect the conviction that we belong to God.