

## For This Child I Prayed

- Greet people as they arrive
- Welcome new members publicly
- Praise reports
- Praise and Worship or have someone open up in prayer
- Discussion

Video and recap notes can be found here:

<https://newbeginning-church.com/mediacast/for-this-child-i-prayed-1-samuel-11-20/>

### **Share intro/recap:**

This Mother's Day, we celebrated a woman who wanted so badly to become a mom but couldn't because she was sterile. We learned so much from how this difficult situation impacted her life and what she did about it. Today, by exploring Hannah's reaction to her affliction, we are going to learn how we can deal with our own stuff.

**Ask someone or multiple people to read:** 1 Samuel 1:1-19

**Ask:** How important was it for a Jewish couple to have kids?

### **Note:**

For many Jews, procreation is considered the first commandment given by God and is thus of supreme importance to observant Jews. "And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein" (Genesis 9:7).

**Ask:** What were some of the assumptions people had if you were barren?

### **Answer:**

Since multiplication was due to God blessing them<sup>1</sup>, a lot believed that if you couldn't have kids you were cursed due to sin.

So not only did Hannah feel ashamed of not being a mother, something she must've dreamed about since she was little, now she has to deal with people's judgment.

Maybe compare Hannah to Job who was going through a storm and his friends thought it was because of something he did.

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<sup>1</sup> Genesis 1:28 ESV "And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth..."

**Lesson:** Let's not be too quick at jumping to conclusions as to why a person suffers, a tragedy happens ect... See John 9, a man was born blind and his disciples ask Jesus who sinned. The assumption was if you're blind it's because you sinned and Jesus said this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.<sup>2</sup>

**Ask:** What were some of the women in the Bible who struggled with infertility?

**Answer:**

Sarah, Abraham's wife (Gen. 11:29-30)  
 Rebekah, Isaac's wife (Gen. 25:21, 24, 26)  
 Rachel, Jacob's wife (Gen. 29:31)  
 Zorah's wife (Judges 13:2)  
 Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-7)

**Ask:** What are some of the ways people cope/deal with their afflictions today?

**Ask:** Read 1 Samuel 1: 9-14 and then ask: How did Hannah deal with her barrenness/innability?

**Ask:** In verse 18, Hannah doesn't seem to be anxious or discouraged anymore. What happened? Hint: "peace that surpasses all understanding" (Phil. 4:6-7)

**Lesson:** Many of the people mentioned today, God displayed His power through their inability. Why couldn't He do it with you?

**Ask:** Read verse 20: "And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the Lord."

What do you understand from this ? (Emphasis on "Due time").

**Ideas of leader concluding in prayer:**

- Lord, I bring you my inability(ies) so that your power can be displayed through them
- We pray for the barren parts of our life that don't bear fruit
- We pray that we would make it a reflex to respond like Hannah did
- We pray to be patient with Your timing.

- Prayer requests & Prayer
- Fellowship/ if on Zoom, leave the Zoom open a bit for people to connect
- Close

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<sup>2</sup> John 9:1-3 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

<sup>3</sup> "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."