

## MESSAGE NOTES



**Series:** Just Your Average Joe's  
**Message:** Hannah: Hope Against Hope  
**Speaker:** Rusty Coram  
**Date:** February 6/7, 2016

<sup>7</sup> But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence. <sup>8</sup> They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NLT)

**Hannah's story is found in the Old Testament book 1 Samuel.**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not...

<sup>7</sup> 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.

1 Samuel 1:1-2, 7(NLT)

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the LORD. <sup>11</sup> 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."

1 Samuel 1:9-11 (NLT)

**Some things we learn from Hannah:**

**God hears and answers my prayer.**

**He will work powerfully in and through me... if I am surrendered to Him.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Hannah prayed: "My heart rejoices in the LORD! The LORD has made me strong. Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me. <sup>2</sup> No one is holy like the LORD! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. <sup>3</sup> Stop acting so proud and haughty! Don't speak with such arrogance! For the LORD is a God who knows what you have done; he will judge your actions."

1 Samuel 2:1-3 (NLT)

**God's purposes are greater than mine.**

<sup>25</sup> ...they brought the boy to Eli. <sup>26</sup> "Sir, do you remember me?" Hannah asked. "I am the woman who stood here several years ago praying to the LORD. <sup>27</sup> I asked the LORD to give me this boy, and he has granted my request. <sup>28</sup> Now I am giving him to the LORD, and he will belong to the LORD his whole life." And they worshiped the LORD there.

1 Samuel 1:25-28 (NLT)

*I could go on and on, but I've run out of time. There are so many more—Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel...*

Hebrews 11:32 (MSG)

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**BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:**

MSG – The Message

NLT – New Living Translation

## TAKE HOME SHEET



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**Take a few minutes and read 1 Samuel chapters 1 and 2.**

**Now write down your thoughts about the following questions:**

What are some things about Hannah's circumstances that stand out to you?

What might her home life have been like?

How was her faith in God impacted by her circumstances?

If you were in her place, how difficult would it have been to give Samuel up?

What have you been praying about that God hasn't given you what you asked?

How has this affected you and your relationship with Him and others?

If God's answer is "no," will you continue to trust and follow Him, knowing that He knows what is best for you?

If God gives you what you want, are you ready to see it as a gift to be used for His honor like Hannah did?