



Leader

5/11 - 1 Samuel 1-2:10 (Hannah)

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new? How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement from us?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?
[Dialogue]
2. Let's read our primary text. As we read this narrative, what clues can we gather about Elkanah?
[Not certain, but likely, according to scholars]
 - Elkanah likely had two wives because his first wife Hannah was barren, a common practice in that time
 - Elkanah was likely very wealthy to; a) be able to provide for two wives and b) offer the type of sacrifices that he did for Hannah
 - Elkanah loved Hannah, this was evidenced by the "double portion" or more favored part of the animal that he would provide for her
3. What biblical story does this text remind you of? What similarities are present in each of these stories?
Sarah and Hagar from Genesis 16. Examples: Barrenness, God providing a child for Sarah, provoking from Hagar, etc.
4. How does Eli the priest display wisdom in the text? What can we learn from his actions?
He first responded to Hannah in judgement, because any form of drunkenness in or near the temple would have been forbidden, but he quickly realized his mistake and began to speak life over Hannah, including participating in the dedication of the child before the Lord.
5. How does this story of Samuel put God's sovereignty on display?
The birth of Samuel is God's answer to the prayer of a childless woman; he is also the answer to Israel's need for a prophet who will give God's guidance to his people in their transition from the period of the judges to the period of the kings (ESV commentary).
6. What is the significance of this child not having a razor touch his head? Is this concept present in the New Testament?
According to Numbers 6, some may choose to make a Nazirite vow to the Lord as a way to set themselves apart for the Lord for a season, which includes not cutting one's hair (see also Lev. 27:1-8). This vow could be made as young as a month to be set apart to work in the temple. Paul alludes this type of setting apart for the purposes of God in the NT - see Romans 12-:1-2.

7. Sharing the stories of God are so important. Could you tell this story to someone now? Anyone want to try? How about to your children?

[Dialogue]

8. Any other thoughts you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

[Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is it apparent to others that Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity? Would anyone like to share the gospel with the group?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [*apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy*]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives.

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary
- John MacArthur Commentary - Romans