



Title | Hannah's Pour
Series | Making a Difference in a Nation Adrift
Text | 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11
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Sermon Notes

1 Samuel 1:1 There was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite. **2** He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. **3** Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD. **4** On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. **5** But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. **6** And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. **7** So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. **8** And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?" **9** After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. **10** She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. **11** And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head. . . ."

Big Idea:

1 Samuel 1:15 ". . . I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD." *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read Judges 2:7, 10-12; 21:25. These verses describe the cultural setting for the beginning of 1 Samuel. How would you describe it? How would you compare it to the cultural setting we are in today in America?

Tuesday:

Read 1 Samuel 1:1-18. From this text, list the ways that Hannah's life would have been difficult. How did she feel? Although your circumstances may be different, do you sometimes feel the way Hannah did? Do these feelings tend to push you closer to God or farther away?

Wednesday:

Reread 1 Samuel 1:12-18. Based on Eli's misunderstanding and Hannah's explanation of what she is doing, how would you describe Hannah's prayer? Why do you think Hannah is no longer sad and resumes eating after she prays?

Thursday:

Read 1 Samuel 1:19-2:11. How is Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10 similar to her prayer she describes in 1 Samuel 1:15? How is it different?

Friday:

Based on 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11, what is the value in pouring out our souls before the Lord? How can you do that today?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, instead of bottling things up, help me to pour out my soul before you, knowing you will hear and understand me. Amen.