



LEADER TIPS

Supplemental Texts & Key

Sermon Scripture References

Luke 17:11-19; Exodus 15:11; Exodus 3:7; Exodus 4:31; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Matthew 5:3-10; Luke 1:46-55; Philippians 2:6-11

Sermon Description

In this sermon, Pastor Andrew examines Hannah's prayer in response to receiving the blessing of a child. Her prayer transcends the fulfillment of her immediate needs and desires, encompassing God's plan and purpose of redemption. 1 Samuel presents Hannah's story as a scale model of Israel's story, which, in turn, speaks of humanity's story. Her barrenness represented Israel's barrenness which is an indication of humanity's barrenness. The way God saves Hannah is a subtle, yet significant indication for how He saves all His people. Hannah could not give birth to a child. Israel could not establish themselves as a nation. And you and I cannot overcome life in a fallen world. Borrowing Hannah's words in v. 9, we cannot prevail by our own strength. We must place our faith in the God who saves like no other.

Text Insights

- This is the first explicit reference to "Messiah" or "God's Anointed Ruler" in the Bible.
- Hannah's song is echoed and forms an inclusion with David's song in 2 Samuel 22.
- Hannah's song is also echoed in Mary's song in Luke 1:46-55
- Hannah's song establishes the themes that play out in the books of 1 and 2 Samuel

Discussion Primer

Consider opening up your time together by discussing the primer question, which flows directly from the week's scripture focus and sermons. Forward the primer to your MC and encourage them to prayerfully consider it in advance of meeting.

Sermon Description

The sermon description is provided to help you as a leader recall the key points, terminology and emphases from the recent sermons. Often it may be helpful to use these in summarizing the sermons for your MC and/or in helping you to guide the discussion of the six replicable questions.

Replicable Questions

These questions are used to stimulate interaction with the text. Over time, our hope is that these questions will begin to frame the way our church approaches reading the bible and listening to sermons.

Intersection

Consider using one or more of these questions to stimulate further discussion with respect to how the text and the sermon intersect with our lives and our church in direct and meaningful ways.

Vision Casting

As leaders, be intentional to cast vision regularly and reminding your MCs why we do what we do, that is, out of a desire to know God more deeply, to treasure his gospel more richly and to fulfill our mission more faithfully. Remind participants of the MC stipend and ask if they know of needs that could be met with the funds.

DISCUSSION PRIMER

What narratives compete with God's narrative of redemption as being defining story of our life's value and purpose? (i.e. the American Dream, various secularisms such as *capitalism* or *socialism*, etc.)

SERMON OUTLINE

**WHEN MESS MEETS MERCY: THE GOSPEL OF 1 SAMUEL
"THE GOD WHO SAVES LIKE NO OTHER": 1 SAMUEL 2:1-10**

Big Idea: Jesus saves like no other by reversing the world's expectations and reigning as king.

Sermon Outline

- The God Who Saves Like No Other (vv. 1-2)
 - His mercy is deeply personal.
 - His concerns are always communal.
- The God Who Reverses the World's Expectations (vv. 3-9)
 - Human power does not account for salvation—Divine power does.
 - God opposes the self-reliant but gives grace to the God-dependent.
- The God Who's King is Coming (v. 10)
 - His name is Jesus the Christ

REPLICABLE QUESTIONS

Read 1 Samuel 2:1-10 and explore together what the passages reveal about:

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) The character and purposes of God? | 4) Our identity in Christ? |
| 2) The fallen human condition? | 5) Our obedience to Christ? |
| 3) The gospel of Jesus Christ? | 6) Our relationship to neighbor? |

INTERSECTION: *How does the text intersect with our lives?*

- ▶ In what ways does Hannah's story serve as a scale model of Israel's story, which in turn speaks to humanity's story?
- ▶ In what ways may your life story serve as a scale model for God's story of redemption?
- ▶ What worship wounds has God brought healing to in your life? What sins has He forgiven, shame has He covered, fear has He resolved, guilt He has removed?
- ▶ Is your worldview and way of life being shamed and governed by the gospel of God's kingdom as revealed in Scripture? If so, how so?
- ▶ How might our association with God's global family and history of redemption determine who we are to be in the world?
- ▶ Since we worship the God who Reverses the World's Expectations, how might we align our expectations with the ends that He intends to bring about? (i.e. seek now to serve rather than to be served, recognize that in the kingdom of God the first shall be last and the last shall be first).
- ▶ Salvation comes not by human power but divine power—what aspects of God's story of redemption reinforce this reality? (i.e. the virgin birth, the empty tomb, Pentecost)
- ▶ What is the difference between being self-reliant and God-reliant?

APPLICATION: "So, what now?"

Have each participant identify a personal take-away in light of this study. Encourage specificity in response to God's revelation by asking if there is . . .

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| • a command to obey? | • a beauty to behold? | • a mission to fulfill? |
| • a promise to claim? | • a truth to believe? | • an example to follow? |
| • a sin to repent of? | • a service to render? | • a person to tell? |