

# Water of Life Community Church

## SAMUEL

### WEEK 1

#### 1 SAMUEL 1-3

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## ICE BREAKER

## PRAYER

## WORSHIP

## INTRODUCTION

Today we will look at Hannah's story. Hannah longed for a child, but was unable to conceive. Hannah did the only thing she knew to do: she poured her heart out to the Lord in prayer, and by His grace, He answered her plea for a child. This child would become a prophet to God's people.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### 1. READ 1 SAMUEL 1:1-2:11.

- a. What responses did Hannah's childlessness evoke in her? In Elkanah? In Peninnah?
- b. How do you tend to respond to God when He seems to say no to your prayers?
- c. What stands out to you about the details of Hannah's prayer?
- d. How did Hannah view the things God gave her? Is this the same view you have? Why or why not?
- e. What does lifelong service to God (v. 28) look like in your life? If you are a parent, is this an honest desire you have for your children?
- f. What stands out to you about Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-11? Why is it important to offer thanks before God when we recognize that He has answered our prayers?

### 2. READ 1 SAMUEL 3:1-21.

- a. How did Samuel's surroundings help him hear from God?
- b. If you desired to hear from God on a daily basis, what distractions would you need to limit or eliminate?
- c. How did Samuel's response to the voice of God indicate his surrender to the will of God?

d. What, in your own words, did God tell Samuel? Would this have been an easy or hard message to deliver?

e. Why is it important that we measure success according to obedience before God and not according to the response of other people?

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## PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

What do you find most difficult about letting go and relying on God through prayer?

Why do difficult times make us aware of our need for God? Share about a time when you've seen this awareness in your life.

Where is God currently calling you to obedience? How do you need to respond?

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## GOING DEEPER / WEEKLY CHALLENGE

### REFLECT

- Think about one person (a parent, a leader, a coach, etc.) who has been influential in your life.
- Reflect on how good God has been to you in blessing you with that gift and the experience(s) you had with them.
- Thank the Lord for that person.

### RESPOND

- Commit to taking time to pray for your family and loved ones by name.
- Thank the Lord for hearing and answering your prayers.

*Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "eDevotional" to 67076; or go to [wolgroups.com](http://wolgroups.com) and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.*

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## MEMORY VERSE

1 Samuel 1:27-28, New International Version (NIV)

"I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. 28 So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord." And he worshiped the Lord there.