

# One BRMC Small Group Study

## The Giving Mother

### Participant's Copy

Please note that this study guide accompanies the pulpit sermon on 10 May 2020.

Scripture Passage:

Key passage: 1 Samuel 1:27-28

Supplementary passages: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11

#### **Context:**

On the occasion of Mother's Day, it is a celebration of the role mothers and persons in a mothering role (including fathers and persons in a fathering role) play in discipling children; and an encouragement to pray for our children, model for our children and present our children to the Lord. The lessons that can be learned apply to us even if we are not parents or in a parenting role.

Hannah was barren, downhearted and she prayed with deep anguish to the Lord. Her prayers were answered, a son was given to her. She responded in gratitude and kept her vows to give her son in service of the Lord.

#### **Lesson Objectives:**

In this lesson, we are encouraged to:

- Give ourselves to prayer.
- Give ourselves as models.
- Give our children to the Lord.

#### Introductory

1. In 1 Samuel 1:1-11, why was Hannah in deep anguish? What was her response to her anguish?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. From 1 Samuel 1:17 to 1 Samuel 2:11, Hannah's behaviour and responses reveal much about her faith and relationship with the Lord. Identify at least 3 instances that tell of her faith and relationship.

## Reflection

3. Hannah's response to anguish and grief was to go to the Lord and pray. She did not fulfil her basic needs, like to eat, she did not concern herself with how she might appear to others (appearing like one who is drunk). Can you share an instance where you have been provoked or were in anguish or grief? Did you go to God and pray before fulfilling other needs? Would you forsake appearances for sincere petition?
  
4. Why was Hannah able to attribute the birth of her son to God answering her prayers (as opposed to just coincidence)? How was she able to give her only son to the Lord for the rest of the boy's life?
  
5. Hannah and her husband modelled faithful commitment to God, devotion to God and gratitude to God for answered prayer. Does your life model faithful commitment to God, devotion to God and gratitude to God for answered prayer?

## Application

6. Hannah and her husband provide an example of giving themselves to prayer, giving themselves as models and giving to God their child. Each of us can also endeavour to follow in their example for our children and for future generations in our church. What steps can you take to follow their example to disciple our future generations?
  - a. Giving yourself to prayer?
    - Would you commit to give yourself to pray for your children, and our future generations?
    - When you are provoked, in anguish or grief, can you make God your first port of call, wholeheartedly, raw and unabashedly?
  
  - b. Giving yourself as a model?
    - Would you give yourself to be a model of a disciple of Christ, for your children, and our future generations to emulate and follow?

c. Giving our children to God?

- o Would you give your children, and our future generations to God, in faith, for God to build them, mould them and use them?

## Prayer

7. Write out a prayer for yourself based on what you have heard and learned from this session.

(a) What is in your heart for yourself?

- Are you being provoked, in anguish or grief? Perhaps you can affirm God's presence and protection and provision by praying and believing in the words of Psalm 23.

(b) What is in your heart for others?

- Perhaps you feel led to pray for those who are precious to you, your family, your children, your friends. Give them to the Lord:

"Merciful Father, I thank you for *(name/s of family and/or friend/s)* Lord I trust that you are Sovereign over their life. I surrender *(name/s of family and/or friend/s)* to you and rely on Your promise that You will cause all things to work for the good of those who love You and are called according to Your purposes. Give me wisdom as to how to minister to them and show them how much You love them. In Jesus' name, Amen."

- It is always useful to collate these prayers and to refer to them for thanksgiving and sharing next week.