

Focus on God

1 SAMUEL 1:1-11

FOCUS ON GOD

TEXT: 1 SAMUEL 1:1-11

1. Hannah's adversary – *vs 1-8*

- a. She was one of the two wives. – *vs 2*
- b. She was barren – *vs 5*
 - Despite Elkanah loving Hannah more than Peninnah, Hannah now knew that she could not bless Elkanah and give to him the same thing that Peninnah could—which was children.
- c. She was constantly reminded – *vs 7*
 - Peninnah knew that Elkanah loved Hannah more than her. She constantly reminded Hannah of her lacking and even provoked her to the point of not only being discouraged but she made Hannah feel useless and unwanted.

2. Hannah's Heart – *vs 6-8*

With Peninnah constantly reminding her and Hannah's thoughts being solely focused on her barren nature, her heart changed.

- a. Her focus was taken away from God – *vs 6*
 - Instead of having God in mind during her time in Shiloh, she was more focused on her troubles and struggles. Hannah forgot the reason of her visit to Shiloh.
 - Her time with God was taken away and now her main focus was the failure of her being barren.
- b. She gave up – *vs 7*
 - One of the side effects of being in a depressed state is having an eating disorder. For Hannah, she didn't eat at all.
 - She was focused on what she doesn't have rather than what she's been given.

3. Hannah's Prayer – *vs 9-11*

- a. She got on her knees.
 - Hannah had been broken down so many times. Now we see her finally leaving all of the hurting and suffering in the hands of God.
- b. She relied on God's power. – *vs 11*
 - Hannah realised that God was in control that whole time, it wasn't her or her husband's fault that she couldn't have a child.
 - Later on, in the chapter she does have a child name Samuel, but what we're focusing on tonight is the control that God had in Hannah's life and the refocusing that Hannah had to do; a refocusing on God.
- c. Do you rely on God or yourself?
 - Sometimes we forget to look to God when we're struggling because we try to do everything ourselves.
 - Take some time tonight to go to your Shiloh and to go on your knees and give God control of all your hurting and suffering.
 - **God isn't limited.** There is a reason as to why you're facing that challenge, you may not know it, like Hannah in this story, but God knows and that's all that matters.