



Joyful Surrender  
With Pastor Traci Akers  
Week 4

**Big Idea:** Hannah surrendered her son to God's plan and found joy in trusting Him.

**Main Scriptures:**

1 Samuel 1:19-20  
1 Samuel 1:24-28

**Key Point:** True strength is found when we let go and trust God's greater purpose.

**Bottom Line:** Joy comes from surrendering what we love to God's hands.

**Application:** What is one thing you need to surrender to God this week?

**Introduction:**

Sometimes God is asking us to do something that's really hard for us:

Trust isn't just saying, "God, I trust You.", it's putting your hands down and allowing Him to be in control.

We want God to bless what we refuse to release.

**1. HANNAH RECEIVES THE ANSWER**

**1 Samuel 1:19-20** 19 They got up early the next morning and worshipped the LORD. Then they went back home to Ramah. Elkanah had sex with his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. 20 So in the course of time, Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, which means "I asked the LORD for him."

Hannah's story doesn't end with receiving. It ends with releasing.

## 2. THE HARDEST PART OF THE PROMISE

**1 Samuel 1:24–28** 24 When he had been weaned and was still very young, Hannah took him, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a jar of wine, and brought him to the LORD's house at Shiloh. 25 They slaughtered the bull, then brought the boy to Eli. 26 "Excuse me, sir!" Hannah said. "As surely as you live, sir, I am the woman who stood here next to you, praying to the LORD. 27 I prayed for this boy, and the LORD gave me what I asked from him. 28 So now I give this boy back to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is given to the LORD." Then they worshipped there before the LORD.

Sometimes receiving from God takes faith and releasing back to God takes even more!

Hannah understood something we forget:

- The blessing was never meant to replace the Blessor.
- Samuel was a gift.
- He still belonged to God.

## 3. WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING TOO TIGHTLY?

True strength is found when we let go and trust God's greater purpose.

### Wrap-up

Not knowing what the outcome will be—but knowing WHO you're trusting with the outcome, but surrender doesn't mean we stop praying for the miracle. It means we can pray for the miracle while saying, "God, whatever the outcome, I trust You."

When we release something into God's hands, we're not throwing it into the unknown. We're placing it into the hands of the One who gave His life for us.

Sometimes faith looks like holding on, and sometimes faith looks like opening your hands.

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