

A GODLY WOMAN

Dear Friend:

We are just a few days away from the holiday when the most phone calls to moms are made in a single day; and the least number of meals in a single day are made by moms. I can attest to the meal fact. As a teenager I worked in two different restaurants, Ponderosa and Lums. Mother's Day was always our busiest day! Moms deserve the day off.

Like me, I am sure you could tell of sacrifices your mom made for the family. My mom became a Christian when she was in her teen years but "fell away" from God until her mid 40's. There was a time when she was raising us five kids as a single mom...she made sacrifices. When she and my stepdad, Buck, returned to God they both served him well. They helped start new churches both here in the Columbus area and in Orlando, Florida. Once she rededicated her life, she learned to be a godly woman like Hannah. What is a godly woman? Hannah gives us the answer.

The first and second chapters of the book of I Samuel tell the story and great sacrifice of Hannah. First, Hannah was tested by God. Hannah, for an unknown period of time, was unable to have children. Elkanah, her husband, had two wives: Peninnah and Hannah. Peninnah had no problem bearing children and she loved bragging to Hannah about her kids! I Samuel 1:6 says Peninnah kept provoking Hannah. Hannah's barrenness was a test in many ways. She did not grow bitter; she did not seek revenge. Why God delayed Hannah's ability to have children we do not know; but we know she passed the test of patience with God.

A second trait of a Godly woman that Hannah displayed was she regularly and deeply talked to God – she prayed. Mom's let me ask you: Are you a praying mom? Pray deeply, talk to God regularly, pray like Hannah, and watch God work.

A third trait of a Godly woman seen in Hannah – she trusted God. I think this would have been the hardest thing to do. She promised God if he gave her a son she would let Eli, the Priest, raise him. She would allow him to grow up not in her home, but at the Temple. God gave her a son (Samuel) and Hannah trusted God enough to give him back. Moms, could you do the same?

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Valerii Mateash, Helen Smith (shut-in of the month)

Praise: for all our moms!

Events: Sunday - Mother's Day Recognition, Fill the Food Pantry Bin Challenge; Thursday- Women's Ministry Indoor Cleaning Day 3:00 - \$5 Pizza & Meeting 6:00