



Everyday FAITH Family Page

I Spy Salvation's Story

Law/Gospel

The Lord is not pleased with those who provoke others, as Peninnah did to Hannah, or with those who ignore Him and mock His worship, as did Hophni and Phinehas. **When we are abused by others, we may suffer for a time, but the Lord has not forgotten us. He shall bless us through His Son, Jesus.**

Bible Words

[God says,] "You will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear you."
Jeremiah 29:12

Sing

To Hannah, praying childless
Before Your throne of grace,
You gave a son and called him
To serve before Your face.
Grant us her perseverance;
Lord, teach us how to pray
And trust in Your deliv'rance
When darkness hides our way.
"For All the Faithful Women," stanza 6, by
Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., *Lutheran Service Book* 855, copyright © 2006 CPH. Text © 1993,
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The Case of the Little Coat: Hannah's Prayer

1 Samuel 1:1–2:21

Hannah was one of two wives of a man named Elkanah. His other wife, Peninnah, had children and she mocked and provoked Hannah because she was childless.

While Hannah's husband favored her, he did not seem to do anything to stop Peninnah's hurtful behavior. When the family went to the temple for the yearly sacrifice, Hannah sought comfort and help from God. She promised that if the Lord gave her a son, she would dedicate the boy to serve Him.

As Hannah prayed silently, Eli the priest saw her moving her lips without speaking. He thought she was drunk, so he confronted her. Hannah told Eli that she was pouring out her soul before the Lord. He told her God would answer her prayer. And He did.

God blessed Hannah with a son, whom she named Samuel. When he was old enough, she brought him to the temple to study under the priests and serve the Lord, as she promised.

Faithful Actions

As Samuel grew older, he faithfully ministered before the Lord (2:18). Hannah showed her love for her son by bringing a special robe to Samuel when the family visited the temple each year. Hannah and Samuel's faithful actions contrast with the cruelty of Peninnah and the selfishness of Eli's sons Hophni and Phinehas, who stole sacrifices meant for God.

Hannah and Samuel's trust and faithfulness remind us of God's compassion for His people, even when we feel hurt or abused by others. In love and compassion, God sent His own Son to pay for our sin on the cross and rise from the dead to give new life to all who believe in Him.

Prayer

Dear Lord, please protect us from those who would harm and hurt us. Help us stay faithful to You, even in times of despair. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

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