

R U N
are you in?

LifeGroups
get connected.

TRANSFORMATION

"And we... are being transformed into His likeness."

2 Corinthians 3:18

CHETS TOP 5

Buckets of Hope
Buckets must be turned
back in by March 14th.

Spring Forward
March 14th

Capital
Stewardship
Campaign Building
Loan Vote
March 14th

Easter
Eggstravaganza
April 3rd • 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Easter Worship
Times
April 4th
8:30, 9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -
Main Campus
9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -
Chets Creek Elementary

C.L.A.S.S.
101 - 401
March 28th
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.



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CHURCH

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Volume XI No. 9

Discussion Guide

Life Sentences - "Hannah"

FOCUS: to see how God can bring hope and joy to life situations that seem to be devoid of both. To identify five Bible truths from this story that can be applied to their lives.

"For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." Psalm 30:5 (NIV)

1. What was the primary difference between Hannah and Peninnah? (1 Samuel 1:2)
2. Where did the family go on an annual basis to worship God and bring sacrifices? (1 Samuel 1:3)
3. How did Elkanah treat his wives on these occasions? Why did he treat Hannah differently? (1 Samuel 1:5)
4. How did Peninnah treat Hannah? (1 Samuel 1:6-7)
5. List some words that would characterize Hannah's emotional state at these worship times.
6. What did Hannah do in response to Peninnah's mocking, ridicule and scorn? (1 Samuel 1:9-11)
7. What are some other ways that Hannah could have reacted to Peninnah's harsh words?
8. What did Eli assume about Hannah and how did she explain her behavior? (1 Samuel 1:13-16)
9. What was Eli's response? (1 Samuel 1:17)
10. How did Hannah's mood change after her prayer and encounter with Eli? (1 Samuel 1:18)
11. How did Hannah explain to Eli her vow and its fulfillment? (1 Samuel 1:25-28)
12. What was David's instruction to his people for times when their enemies gloated over them? (Psalms 30:1-5)
13. How might Peninnah have reacted to the fact that Hannah gave her son to God?
14. Why should Hannah's life sentence be "weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning?" (Psalms 30:5)

Read Thru the Bible

"How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:103-105

<u>March</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Proverbs</u>
8	Numbers 1:1-54	Mark 9:30-50	31:19-24	7:13-17
9	Numbers 2:1-3:16	Mark 10:1-22	32:1-7	7:18-21
10	Numbers 3:17-4:20	Mark 10:23-45	32:8-11	7:22-23
11	Numbers 4:21-5:31	Mark 10:46-11:11	33:1-9	7:24-27
12	Numbers 6:1-7:29	Mark 11:12-33	33:10-17	8:1-3
13	Numbers 7:30-89	Mark 12:1-27	33:18-22	8:4-5
14	Numbers 8:1-10:10	Mark 12:28-44	34:1-7	8:6-7
15	Numbers 10:11-11:35	Mark 13:1-20	34:8-14	8:8-9

LifeGroup Prayer Requests:

"You are not responsible for everyone in the church family - but you are responsible to them. So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

LOOKING TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY

David - Psalm 78:72

To discuss the leadership traits of David and be challenged to become a more effective leader.

MONDAY - MARCH 8, 2010

Read I Samuel 16:1-13

1 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." 2 But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." 4 Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" 5 Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. 6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD." 7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." (not all verses printed due to space)

- What is the Lord telling Samuel to do?
- Why did Samuel think Eliab was "the one"?
- What does the Lord look at in a person?
- Why does God look at the heart? (Matthew 12:34-35)
- What are the actions in your life saying about your heart?
- What attention will you give to strengthening your heart for the Lord's use?

TUESDAY - MARCH 9, 2010

Read I Samuel 17:1-50

1 Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Socoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Socoh and Azekah. 2 Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. 3 The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. 4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. 5 He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; 6 on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. 7 His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him. 8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." 10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." 11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified. 12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was old and well advanced in years. 13 Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. 14 David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem. (not all verses printed due to space)

- Describe Goliath and his weapons.(vs. 4-7)
- What challenge did Goliath make to the men of Israel? (vs. 8-10)
- How did David respond to the men around him about Goliath? (vs. 25-27)
- Compare David's attitude in verses 32-37 to Saul's in (verse 11).
- Which attitudes are more like you?
- What giants in your life need to be defeated? How can you gain a Godly courage to overcome them?

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 10, 2010

Read II Samuel 11:1-27

1 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. 2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then [a] she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." 6 So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house. 10 When David was told, "Uriah did not go home," he asked him, "Haven't you just come from a distance? Why didn't you go home?" 11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my master Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open fields. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and lie with my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" (not all verses printed due to space)

- What is the progression of David's sin?
- What qualities do you see in Uriah?
- How did David and Bathsheba's sin affect their lives?
- What was the Lord's view about what David had done? (vs. 27)
- What in your life is tempting to you?
- How could this temptation if acted upon affect your life and the lives of others?
- What will you do to overcome this temptation?

THURSDAY - MARCH 11, 2010

Read II Samuel 12:1-14

1 The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, 3 but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. 4 "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." 5 David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." 7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. 8 I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. 9 Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.' 11 "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. 12 You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.' " 13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. 14 But because by doing this you have made the enemies of the LORD show utter contempt, the son born to you will die."

- Why do you think Nathan started his confrontation with a parable?
- Why does David get so angry about the parable?
- What is Nathan communicating in (verses 7-9)?
- Take time today to be grateful for the blessings you have from the Lord.
- What sin is God confronting you about right now? How will you respond?

FRIDAY - MARCH 12, 2010

Read Psalm 51:1-19

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. 5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. 6 Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. 7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. 14 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 The sacrifices of God are [c] a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. 18 In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; build up the walls of Jerusalem. 19 Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

- In (II Samuel 11:1-27) David has an affair with Bathsheba, tries to cover it up by deceiving Bathsheba's husband (Uriah) and then later has Uriah murdered in battle. Nathan then confronts David about his sin. How Does David approach God in (Psalm 51:1-3)?
- When we sin - Who does verse 4 say that we ultimately sin against?
- What does David ask God to do? (vs. 7-12)
- What kind of sacrifice does the lord desire? (vs. 16-17, 19)
- Are you broken about something that has taken place in your life?
- How does this brokenness bring you closer to the Lord?