

# WONDERS

Title: **EXCEEDINGLY, ABUNDANTLY**

Date: August 11, 2024

## Leader's Tips:

- S** - Sensitivity with others. No one should feel left out.
- P** - Participation is encouraged during discussion.
- A** - Acknowledge guests. Make them feel welcome.
- C** - Confidentiality is key. What is shared stays in the group.
- E** - Encourage the group to pray for one another.

## WORSHIP: (15 mins)

### Venue Option 1: Home gatherings

*Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.*

**Venue Option 2: Public place** (school, café, park, etc.) or **Via Online**, ask, "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week.

## WELCOME:(15 mins): Welcome everyone in the group.

**Quote:** *Prayer is not merely a way to get things from God but a way to get more of God Himself.* (Timothy Keller, Pastor, Author)

**Key Verse:** "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us." **Ephesians 3:20 NIV**

## WORD (30–45 mins) - Text: 1 Samuel 1:1-20

### 1. Hannah's desperation

Hannah was a woman who suffered deeply because she was unable to have children. Her situation was made worse by her husband having another wife, Peninah, who mocked her for her barrenness. Polygamy was a practice in her time, but this was not God's original intention. In her desperation, Hannah earnestly prayed and expressed her anguish to God at the temple.

**Q: When was the last time you came to God in desperation?**

**Q: How did the Lord respond to your cry of desperation?**

### 2. Hannah's prayer and vow - 1 Samuel 1:11

God heard her desperate prayer and she was no longer sad. The interesting thing is that in the prayer, she vowed to give her son back to God. (1 Samuel 1:11). Hannah has been wanting a son for years but when her prayer was answered she was now willing to dedicate the child to the service of the Lord.

**Q: Have you ever promised God something and eventually fulfil it? Please share your story.**

### 3. Hannah's godly attitude - 1 Samuel 1: 12-16

While Hannah was praying in the temple, Eli, the priest thought that she was drunk. Although she was falsely accused, she still regarded the priest with honor and respect.

**Q: Have you ever been accused of something you did not do? How did you prove your innocence?**

### 4. Hannah's faith- 1 Samuel 1: 17-18, 1 Samuel 1: 24-28

Hannah's story demonstrated her deep faith and trust in God. Faith involves believing even without seeing the immediate answer to prayers.

**Q: How can we maintain our faith even when we don't see results right away?**

**Q: Why do you think there are delays to answers to our prayers?**

### 5. Hannah's wait- Hannah endured years of unanswered prayer

The passage emphasizes the importance of waiting on God and deepening one's relationship with Him. During times of waiting, we become more attuned to God's voice, understanding His heart, character, and will, which helps mature our faith. The text contrasts our desire for answered prayers with the greater need for total submission to Christ.

**Q: Can you share a personal experience where you had to wait for an answer to your prayer? How did it impact your faith?**

6. Hannah's surrender- the very son that she was asking from God, she surrendered for His purpose to be fulfilled. (Matthew 6:9-11).

### 7. Hannah's rewards - 1 Samuel 3:19-20.

God's will and kingdom come upon Israel- He delivered Israel from their enemies. He led the nation of Israel to repentance and established a monarchy that would usher the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**Conclusion:** What challenges are you facing today that seem overwhelming that seems no way out? Consider these two things:

1. Honor God despite the challenges that come your way.

2. Live for God, and He will uphold you and will show you a miracle.

When we surrender our lives and place our faith in Christ, He becomes our strength, our Firm Foundation!

**Q: What is your take-away from the discussion?** Partner with someone in prayer.

## WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

**P-** Pray for one another. Ask "what can I pray for you?" (7mins.)

**R-** Remind to invite a friend on the next gathering.

**A-** Apply the message during the week.

**Y-** Yearn to share your faith with some one during the week.