

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT HANNAH AND PENINNAH

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 14 • January 30, 2013

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Ruth and Naomi** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 1 Samuel 1:1-8

2. Describe the family situation in **V1-2**.
3. In **V3**, for what purpose does Elkanah go to Shiloh each year? (See **Deuteronomy 16:16** for insight into Jewish law on this.)
4. What are the blessings and the ache for Hannah from **V4-5**?
5. a) Based on **V4-7**, how is Peninnah portrayed, and what do you think contributed to her behavior?

b) Tell of a time when you've wrestled with jealousy or rivalry and how God is working you through it.
6. a) How does Hannah respond to the rival in her life?

b) Have you ever had someone continually provoke you, and how have you handled it?

7. In **V8**, what do you think about the way her husband tried to console her?

SECTION II: Read 1 Samuel 1:9-20

8. a) In **V8-18**, find words and phrases that depict the state of Hannah's emotions.

b) In that state, what does she do, and what is her prayer according to **V9-11**?

9. In **V12-16**, what is the disconnect with Eli, the priest, and how does she respond?

10. Looking at **V17-19a**, what does Eli do, and what amazes you about the change in Hannah?

11. Tell of a time when your intense prayer gave way to incredible peace, even before you saw a change in your circumstances.

12. In **V19-20**, what does the LORD do for Hannah, and how does she credit God for what He did?

SECTION III: Read 1 Samuel 1:21-2:11

13. Reading **V21-23**, why does Hannah stay back during the annual trip to sacrifice to the LORD?

14. What do you think it was like for Hannah as she pondered keeping her promise to the LORD?

15. Recount what Hannah does in **V24-26**.

16. a) What do you admire about Hannah from a mother's perspective in **V27-28** ? See **2:18-20** for more insight.

b) What God-given gift is He calling you to give back to His service?

17. In **2:1-11**, Hannah cannot hold in her praises; she bursts forth in adoration of her LORD. List the attributes of God that come out in her prayer.

18. There is some of "the good, the bad, and the ugly" in the story of Hannah and Peninnah. From either woman, write a truth you want to remember.

19. From struggle to sadness, then peace and praise, form your own prayer request from this lesson.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Whether Hannah struggled with intense sadness over being barren or was filled with intense joy over Samuel's birth, she was a woman of intensive prayer. What do the following verses say about prayer?

Philippians 4:6-7

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

James 5:16

1 Peter 3:12

2. Which of the above verses resonate with you the most right now and why?

3. Suggested Memory Verse: **Romans 12:12**

