



Sharing

Elijah Prayer Discipleship School

Becoming an instrument of prayer

www.buildingfathershouse.org

Building Fathers House

A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)

Workshop no. 30 : “A son is birthed through prayer” - what constituted to Hannah's prayer being answered.

1Pet. 2:5-6

You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Because it is contained in Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious: **He who believes in him will not be disappointed.**”

Purpose of this workshop: To consider prayer in the knowledge of God.

Intended Goal: To encourage the believer to consider God and His Kingdom in all that we seek and do!

Scripture reading

*1Sam. 1:11-14 She vowed a vow, and said, Yahweh of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your handmaid, and remember me, and not forget your handmaid, **but will give to your handmaid a man-child, then I will give him to Yahweh all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come on his head. It happened, as she continued praying before Yahweh, that Eli marked her mouth. Now Hannah, she spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. Eli said to her, How long will you be drunken? put away your wine from you.***

*1Sam. 1:24-2:10 When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bulls, and one ephah of meal, and a bottle of wine, and brought him to the house of Yahweh in Shiloh: and the child was young. They killed the bull, and brought the child to Eli. She said, Oh, my lord, as your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to Yahweh. **For this child I prayed; and Yahweh has given me my petition which I asked of him: therefore also I have granted him to Yahweh; as long as he lives he is granted to Yahweh. He worshiped Yahweh there.** ¶ Hannah prayed, and said:*

*My heart exults in Yahweh;
My horn is exalted in Yahweh;
My mouth is enlarged over my enemies;
Because I rejoice in your salvation.
There is none holy as Yahweh;
For there is none besides you,
Neither is there any rock like our God.
Talk no more so exceeding proudly;
**Don't let arrogance come out of your mouth;
For Yahweh is a God of knowledge,
By him actions are weighed.**
The bows of the mighty men are broken;
Those who stumbled are girded with strength.
Those who were full have hired out themselves for bread;
Those who were hungry have ceased to hunger:
Yes, the barren has borne seven;
She who has many children languishes.
Yahweh kills, and makes alive:
He brings down to Sheol, and brings up.
Yahweh makes poor, and makes rich:
He brings low, he also lifts up.
He raises up the poor out of the dust,
He lifts up the needy from the dunghill,
To make them sit with princes,
Inherit the throne of glory:
For the pillars of the earth are Yahweh's,
He has set the world on them.
He will keep the feet of his holy ones;
But the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness;
For by strength shall no man prevail.
Those who strive with Yahweh shall be broken to pieces;
Against them will he thunder in the sky:
Yahweh will judge the ends of the earth;
He will give strength to his king,
Exalt the horn of his anointed.*

Give unto the LORD, O all of you mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Psalms 29: 1 - 2 - UKJV)

*And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood far off: **And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go your way: your faith has made you whole ...** (Luke 17: 12 - 19 - UKJV)*

Food for thought :

According to 1 Samuel 1:20, Hannah named Samuel as she remembered her prayer to God for a child. Samuel is translated as heard of God or "God has heard" (from 'shama', "heard," and 'El', God). *"And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your handmaid, and remember me, and not forget your handmaid, but will give unto your handmaid a male child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head. (1 Samuel 1: 11 - UKJV)"* and *"Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, **Because I have asked him of the LORD.** (1 Samuel 1: 11 - 20 - UKJV)*

In Hannah's prayer she exalted The Lord, saying that we must not be arrogant for God is a God of knowledge and our actions are weighed likewise. - *Hebrews. 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to him, for he who comes to God must believe that he exists, and that he is a rewarder of those who seek him. (WEB Bible)*

A lot of time our prayers are in reaction to a need or a shortcoming, but the question that come to mind is - how do we react when God answers our prayers. In Luke 17 we read of the ten lepers who called unto The Lord to show mercy, **but only one returned to give thanks**. Jesus also made use of a parable where a man pleaded before the king concerning his debt, the king was merciful and the man's debt was annulled. But as soon as the man left he did not show any mercy to his debtor and the king imprisoned the man until his full debt was paid.

In both these examples it is not about thanking God, for God do not require our thanks but our thankfulness. It is about gratitude, **the quality** of being thankful; **readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness, first unto God and then unto others.**

Hannah expressed her gratitude to God for what He has done for her, as she vowed when she ask of God to assist her in her affliction. If our prayers is guided only by our own desires, forgetting to whom we address our prayer, we sometimes make the mistake not to remember our Heavenly Father, who intervened when we called on Him.

Luke 17:12-21 As he entered into a certain village, ten men who were lepers met him, who stood at a distance. They lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." It happened that as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice. He fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks; and he was a Samaritan. Jesus answered, "Weren't the ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there none found who returned to give glory to God, except this stranger?" Then he said to him, "Get up, and go your way. Your faith has healed you."

We tend to focus on our need to the extent that we use God only for our own purpose, like using an idol to satisfy a need. God gives unto us not because we ask Him but because He loves us, asking is only our way of acknowledging God for who He is, and thanking Him, is not because He listens or listened but because He loves us and we respond in love to His love!

Allow me to share that which is in my heart with you and relate unto you this: The Word we received from God, we received it as if we received a gift from God. Jesus, when He sent His disciples out He said unto them, freely you received freely give. The Word is part of what we have received from God, **we have taken ownership but yet it do not belong unto us**, it is still the Word of God and our only duty is to give it back as a blessing unto God for His Kingdom's sake. Let me try to explain myself a little better, if we come to God with the intend to receive from Him, our response to what He give is gratitude. Therefore if we give the Word we received to anyone in the same gratitude as we received it from God it turns into a blessing unto God. For that same Word, sown through a grateful servant can spring forth to produce fruit of gratitude unto God - multiplication. We can look at it as a plant that bear fruit (seed), if the seed/fruit of the plant is hoarded, it will eventually die and become extinguished.

One of the most basic laws of creation is that every living thing reproduces after its own kind. If we are going to see a mass people movement to Christ, it will be done only through fielding many more thousands of national missionaries.

-K.P. Yohannan, Revolution in World Missions From <http://www.missionsbox.org>

Being able to reproduce is the gift what God gave us, for we have been recreated in Christ Jesus, and we received the Holy Spirit so that we become a witness unto Christ. Let our gratitude be a witness unto that what we have received. Hannah did not only give Samuel back to God, but through his name he proclaimed the glory of God. He (Samuel the baby) became the living proof of a living God, who answered the prayer of a mother. Samuel is the gratitude of the mother released unto God in the knowledge that God is able. Likewise let us release that what we received into the Hands of God in the knowledge that God is able.

Abraham released his blessing, his answer to prayer (Isaac) unto God when God called unto him in the knowledge that God who gave unto him Isaac is able to raise him unto life again. Likewise should we give that what we received to bless God and His work, in the knowledge that God is able to raise up new blessing unto us so that His Kingdom can be extended.

True stories :

Gen. 22:1 It happened after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" He said, "Here I am." Gen. 22:2 He said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, even Isaac, and go into the land of Moriah. Offer him there for a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I will tell you of." Gen. 22:3 Abraham rose early in the morning, and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son. He split the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God had told him. Gen. 22:4-11 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place far off. Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go yonder. We will worship, and come back to you. Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. He took in his hand the fire and the knife. They both went together. Isaac spoke to Abraham his father, and said, "My father?" He said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they both went together. They came to the place which God had told him of. Abraham built the altar there, and laid the wood in order, bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, on the wood. Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to kill his son. The angel of Yahweh called to

him out of the sky, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" He said, "Here I am." Gen. 22:12-17 He said, "Don't lay your hand on the boy, neither do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and saw that behind him was a ram caught in the thicket by his horns. Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering instead of his son. Abraham called the name of that place Yahweh-jireh. As it is said to this day, "In Yahweh's mountain it will be provided. The angel of Yahweh called to Abraham a second time out of the sky, and said, "I have sworn by myself, says Yahweh, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore. Your seed will possess the gate of his enemies.

The reason this workshop is only released now, is because the Lord spoke to us in various ways concerning that which HE gave unto us. One of the things is the Elijah Prayer Discipleship School, and the Lord said we must release it. God gave me a dream, in the dream the Lord showed us the river of life (The Living Water - the Water of life). In the dream the Lord showed us that a lot of people made channels from the river to lead the water to their own small dams, these dam were mostly used for financial purposes, to gain financial profit. The water in the channels started strong but the more outlets lead to the fact that the water within the channels became shallow and mirky, with crocodiles inside. In the dream I saw the danger and realized that I need to get back into the river. In the river the Lord showed us a dam in which we could play, the water is fresh as it is always overflowing at the dam wall,. This resulting in fresh water coming into the dam and the overflow is as if it helps the river to flow stronger. I believe the Lord showed us this dream to say that we tend to take His Word and start our own thing, whereas the Word was given so that we could learn from it and only release what we have learned as a overflow within the river. We have therefore concluded that the Elijah Prayer Discipleship School will continue only as a release of word/teaching of encouragement to encourage the body of Christ, there will be no certificates or membership for we all belong to ONE and that is the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, the ONLY one that died for our sins and redeemed us!

God's authority :

*1Peter. 2:5-6 You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Because it is contained in Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, and precious: **He who believes in him will not be disappointed.**"*

*Hebrews. 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes to God **must believe that He exists, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek him.***

Conclusion :

When Hannah prayed she prayed not the prayer of a unbeliever, but of one who trusted in God to do what only God can do. Even in the sight of the high priest, she prayed not for him to hear but prayed unto **The Lord to hear the cry of her heart, not her words.** we err that we believe that our words should be a correct representation of our hearts. Eli listen to the words of Hannah and concluded that she is drunk, it was because he could not see in her heart but God said in His Word

"2Chronicle. 16:9 For the eyes of Yahweh run back and forth throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in/on the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

Thus we need to guard our hearts as Father God looks at our hearts and not our lips-words!

Prov. 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it is the wellspring of life.

As we guard our hearts we need to guard the gift of the Word - the Word is our Saviour Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prov. 4:20-22 My son, attend to my words.turn your ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from your eyes.Keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them,and health to their whole body.

Prov. 23:23 Buy the truth, and don't sell it: Get wisdom, discipline, and understanding.

Questions to be answered :

- 1.How is the ears of the Lord inclined to hear our prayers/hearts.
- 2.Consider your response to God's answer, blessing upon your prayers
3. Consider what you have done with the Word - Father God has entrusted to you, up till now in your life.
- 4.Consider what we as the Body of Christ have done with the Word
5. Consider what we as the Body of our Saviour have done with the Word in relation to the world.