

HEART Cry

[1 Samuel 1]

1. God uses **certain** men, not **special** ones. (v.1; Genesis 12:1; Exodus 4:10; Judges 6:15; Acts 4:13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31)
2. Divided **loyalty** leads to **conflict**. (v.2,6; Genesis 2:18,24; Matthew 19:8-9; 1 Timothy 3:2; Matthew 6:24)
3. Often in life circumstances don't seem **fair**, but even in these times God has a **plan**.
(v.2,6; Isaiah 5:8-9; James 1:2-4; Isaiah 41:10; Habakkuk 3:17-18; Psalm 73; 1 Peter 5:6)
4. We are privileged to be in relationship with the One Who will **fight** our **battles**! (v.3,11; Isaiah 6:5; Revelation 19:11-20; Exodus 14:14; Deuteronomy 20:4; Romans 8:31; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:11-12)
5. Even when others don't _____ us, God does. (v.8, 13-14; Psalm 139:1-24; Matthew 10:30; John 10:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:3)
6. Keeping a promise will _____ us; and it should. (v.23,24; 2 Samuel 24:23-24; Numbers 30:1-2; Psalm 89:34; Matthew 5:33,37)
7. It is of utmost importance that we join God in establishing _____ purposes - not _____.
(v.23; Matthew 6:10; John 3:30; James 4:15; Acts 18:21; Mark 14:36; Psalm 40:8)
8. True service to God lasts a _____. (v.11, 28; Deuteronomy 11:13; Joshua 24:15; John 12:26; Luke 9:23; 1 Samuel 12:24; Romans 12:1; Mark 10:45)



Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...**

[For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.]

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Elkanah was not particularly a 'special' man - just a 'certain' man (verse 1), but God *certainly* used him- and for sure his wife Hannah! (We see this same thing throughout the Bible.) Do you ever feel like you don't have 'what it takes' and that God can't or won't use you? How should you respond to these kinds of thoughts?
3. On Sunday, Pastor John commented (regarding polygamy) that "Just because God might [seem] silent on a matter doesn't mean He approves of it." To what other issues of today might this apply?
4. *Jehovah Sabaoth* is the LORD of Hosts, our God that fights our battles! Recall a 'battle' you have endured that you are keenly aware of God's presence in fighting for you. What did the experience teach you? Did it change you? How?
5. Hannah received an answer to her prayer, but not right away. "*It came to pass in the process of time...*" (verse 20). She believed God in faith, but she had to wait. Why can waiting be so difficult? What temptations might we face when we are waiting? How can we remain steadfast during these times? (Is there something you are waiting on God for now that you would like prayer for?)
6. After Samuel was born, Elkanah was sensitive to Hannah's desire (to have Samuel with her a little while longer), but he urged her that God's word and purpose being established was far more important (verse 23). Indeed, there are times when we 'fight against' God in wanting our will more than His. Discuss with one another how we can better yield ourselves to God's will.

