

The power of Prayer part 2

Preparing ourselves to receive an answer

1 Samuel 1 - 2:11

The four attitudes needed

1. We must be willing to let God answer in His own time

“So Peninnah would taunt Hannah and make fun of her because the Lord had kept her from having children. ⁷ Year after year it was the same...” 1 Samuel 1:6-7a

2. We must be willing to let God answer in His own way

“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.” Isaiah 55:8

“Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew taller and grew in favour with the Lord and with the people.” 1 Sam 2:26

“As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable. ²⁰ And all Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. ⁴ ¹ And Samuel’s words went out to all the people of Israel.” 1 Sam 3:19-4:1

Samuel was one of the greatest men of the O.T.

3. We must be willing to let God answer in His own power.

“She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. ¹¹ And she vowed a vow and said, “O Lord of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life...” 1 Samuel 1:10-11

“But when Jesus heard about it he said, “Lazarus’s sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this.” ⁵ So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, ⁶ he stayed where he was for the next two days. ⁷ Finally, he said to his disciples, “Let’s go back to Judea.” John 11:4-5

4. Be willing to let God answer for His own purpose

Hannah prayed for a son to take away her social stigma of being childless. God’s purpose in giving her a son was to give the nation of Israel one of the greatest men of the O.T. – Samuel.

Other examples: Elizabeth & Zechariah producing John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-23)
Apostle Paul’s desire to preach in Rome (Romans 1:15), God had a different purpose!