

Sermon Title . **Mothers: Guardians of the Faith**

Mothers: Guardians of the Faith - 1 Samuel 1

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

Sermon Text.. **1 Samuel 1**

**Mothers: Guardians of the Faith
1 Samuel 1**

Invocation Scripture. . **1 Samuel 1**

Main Idea : **Hannah prayed earnestly for a child. WHEN her prayers were granted, she present the child to the Lord but continued to provide for him.**

I read about a woman who telephoned a friend and asked how she was feeling; "Terrible," came the reply over the wire, "my head's splitting and my back and legs are killing me. The house is a mess, and the kids are simply driving me crazy " Very sympathetically the caller said "Listen, go and lie down, I'll come over right away and cook lunch for you; clean up the house, and take care of the children while you get some rest and get yourself together before Sam gets home tonight?"

Objective : **To challenge members to value the role of mothers in our culture.**

"Sam?" the complaining housewife gasped? "My Husband's name isn't Sam..." "My heavens, "exclaimed the caller, "I'm sorry, I must have dialed the wrong number... Before she hung up, she realized that phone had gotten very quiet... Just as she was about to hang up, the timid voice of the harried mother came back, "Are you still coming over?"¹

**Mothers: Guardians of the Faith
1 Samuel 1**

Point I : Prayed. 1 Samuel 1:10-12

Point II : Presented 1 Samuel 1:24-28

Point III: Provided..... 1 Samuel 2:18-21

Mothers day... A day to thank God for our mother! A day to thank our Mother for her faithfulness, patience, her protection, provision, her car, but most of all, her unconditional and endless love!!

There is so much that has been written and said about Mothers day since its promotion by Anna Jarvis

¹Bobby Moore, Any Port in a Storm, (First Baptist Informer, First Baptist Church, Mineral Wells, TX, May 13, 1981), p. 1

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

in 1908. Our nation has encouraged Mother's Day by making it a national holiday in 1914. It was said that *"A nation and society does well to take time out to say "Thank you" to the mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers. Those who have born her sons and daughters!"*

So let us turn today to honor our mothers by affirming them and affirming the role that God has given them, in a message I have entitled "**Mother's: Guardians of the Faith**"

< < < **Read: 1 Samuel 1:1-** > > >

We see in our text today three key issues that I want us to consider today. **Prayed, Presented and Provided.**

Point I: Prayed. 1 Samuel 1:10-12

The first thing that I want you to see today is that **A Mother who is a Guardian** of the Faith is a mother who chooses to Pray for her children.

(1 Sam 1:10-12 NASB) And she, greatly distressed, prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. {11} And she made a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thy maidservant and remember me, and not forget Thy maidservant, but wilt give Thy maidservant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head."

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

Wow... Hannah desperately wanted a child. It is interesting today that so many couples don't even want children. I am not sure whether this is a reflection of the fear of no future in our culture, or whether it is a reflection of the selfishness that permeates the culture.

But understand this today. Hannah wanted a child and she prayed for the child, in other words to have the child, and it is clear with her heart from God that she prayed for the child once he was granted.

Listen friends... It is critical that Mothers pray for their children... I can think of nothing that shows more love than that. In fact men, hear me... It shouldn't just be mothers praying for their children, it should be Father's Also!!

We should begin praying for our children long before they are born and we need to continue to pray for them throughout their whole life!

Listen beloved...

The great evangelistic preacher, Billy Sunday who left a soaring baseball career in the late 1891 to preach the Gospel, tells of a minister who was making calls. He came to a certain home and asked for the mother, but the youth opening the door answered, 'You cannot see mother for she prays from nine to ten each day.' He waited forty minutes to see that mother, and when she came out of her prayer closet the light of glory was on her face. and he knew why that home was so bright; he knew why two of her sons were in the ministry and her daughter was a missionary. "All hell cannot tear a boy

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

or girl away from a praying mother," comments Mr. Sunday.

Consider Susanna Wesley.... The mother of 17 Children

She too spent one hour each day shut up with God alone in her room praying for them. Two of her sons, under God's leadership, brought revival to England while France weltered in the blood of a ghastly revolution.

||: The power of praying for our children beloved, should shape us to God's will for our children!! :||

Listen beloved, **too often we pray to try and make God's will our will...** We want God to do what we want! **We need to learn from Jesus that praying is about making God's will our will!**

I'm not saying we can't ask God for what we want, even Jesus did that!! But remember, even when petitioning for His very life, His submission was clear to the Father's will. What did He pray?...

Luke 22:42 "Father, if Thou art willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Thine be done."

Think about it beloved? **God knows the future of our children.** He knows who they will become, what they will be good at, what their strengths and weaknesses are!! **Who better then to consult on their behalf!!** Who better then to ask about how we should raise them, upon what should our focus be?

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

How many times have you seen children who were being shaped after a parents will. Something a mom or dad didn't achieve they translate onto the child. Want their Child to become...

O beloved, we need to watch our children, learn who they are, seek God daily for them and for His disc...
... will for them and thus how to raise them!

Hannah wanted a child and that so badly, that she was willing to give that child to God for His use if He would but grant her request.

Listen beloved, we must learn to pray for our children in such a way that **we remember whose child they really are!!** That we have been granted the stewardship of their life, and that for better or for worse, we will be the key shapers of their future!

It has been said that *"Men are what their mothers make them."*

I have seen that truth. And as you look back through history and see men like Washington, Adams, Lincoln and others... These men will attest to the incredible value and input of their mothers!

I don't believe that the whole can be told of how important a mothers love and her belief in and her hope for her children, is to their entire life!!

God bless you Mothers who have faithfully and consistently prayed for your children!! Even if the results don't seem to be there yet... the day is not done and God's work and plan is not yet finished. Do not

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

give up! Do not stop praying!!! YOU MAY BE THEIR ONLY INTERCESSOR!! I challenge you from Gal 6:9

And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary.

But notice something else today friends... Hannah not only prayed for her child, she actually presented that child to God, she wholly & fully gave him over to God!

Look back at our text to vss 24-28....

Point II : Presented 1 Samuel 1:24-28

{28} "So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

I can't help but wonder what kind of impact this would have on a child. To know, that from their earliest age that they had been wholly given over by their mother to God for His purposes.

I wonder how much better off our children would be if from before they were born, we gave them to God? Actually, I wonder how much better off we would be?...

The impact of that reality would surely shape their life. Would to God, we would have more mothers today that not only wanted their children, but wanted their children to be Godly Children!

I can't tell you how many times I have had people tell me that they didn't want to force "religion" on their

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

kids. They wanted them to choose for themselves.

Give me a break!! They don't want to force church on their kids, but they send them to school whether they like it or not, they put them in T-Ball, Soccer, Little League Baseball, Ballet, Dance, Gymnastics... DAAAAAA....

What do you think those kids are going to choose? What do you think those kids are going to value? They are going to choose and value what their parents choose and value!! **They are going to choose and value what is made a priority of their life!!!**

We MUST pray for our children beloved, but like Hannah, we must take our children to Church! We must bring them up in the fear and the admonition of the Lord!!! The Bible challenges us to...

Prov 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Listen mothers.. Listen fathers, if we want Godly Children, we have to introduce them to, teach them about, and constantly remind them of God, of His Word, of His will and His purpose!!

Listen beloved, the Catholic church used to say, give me a child until he is 6 and he will be Catholic his entire life!!!

You know what!! That was true for centuries!! And the point is well taken.

I can't imagine how difficult it was for Hannah to take her child and leave him.... But look at the mighty

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

man he became of God!! He presided as God's prophet for the first King of Israel and the 2nd King of Israel, the time of Israel's greatest worldly conquest!!

But understand beloved... Hannah didn't abandon her child... she was constant in her love, her prayers and her care for Samuel... look back at our text to chapter 2:18-21

< < < **Read: 1 Samuel 2:18-21** > > >

Point III: Provided..... 1 Samuel 2:18-21

Listen beloved... Our children need us when they are young... this is true... our children need us throughout their teen years. They need our intervention, our direction, our training and teaching. They need to know learn how life works and how to choose wisely. They need to know how to avoid the mistakes that took such a toll on our lives.

Listen beloved...

Listen beloved, You can't be a guardian of the faith and be casual about it. It is a discipline that must be practiced every day! It is a choice that must be made every day. It is a sacrifice, a giving of your life, your time, your hopes and your dreams!!

Margie Janovich, a Nebraska mother of 8 was diagnosed with thyroid cancer while pregnant with her ninth child. She decided to wait until her daughter was born to seek treatment her cancer, her reasoning... "I

1) Prayed, 2) Presented 3) Provided

would much rather give up my life for my baby, any good mother would do the same." Meanwhile, in England, two women murdered their unborn babies, over a mix-up concerning a lab report that showed one of the babies having Downs Syndrome. The lab report was mailed to the wrong mother, who without a 2nd thought proceeded with an abortion and killed her child. The error was discovered a few days later and another letter sent to the right mother, who also went out and promptly aborted her baby. John Neuhaus, editor of "First Things, who reported the incident, said that the 2nd mother expressed sorrow for the mother with the healthy baby that was mistakenly killed, but no sorrow at all over the destroyed lives?.. Margie Janovich fought her battle with cancer after the birth of her precious little daughter. She battled for 20 months but lost the battle. No one can really say whether starting the treatments sooner would have or could have made a difference... What is interesting is the difference in her sense of the value of her children vss that which the world seems to promote!

What do we give for our children today beloved? Hannah made those little coats year by year. I can just see her as she took the shearing from the sheep and spun them into thread and then began to weave that little coat. I can just imagine the number of prayers she lifted up while making them as she pondered who and what her precious son would be.

1) **Prayed**, 2) **Presented** 3) **Provided**

Listen beloved... Hannah was a giving, sacrificing mother, who loved her son and was constantly thinking of his welfare. She was a Mother who was Guardian of the Faith, she proved that by Praying for her son, by Presenting him to the Lord, giving him to God's plan, not her's... and by Providing continually for him the encouragement, support and love that he needed to be one of the greatest of God's prophets!!

So my friend... Do you want to be a Guardian of the Faith, whether Mother or Father?.... Then Pray, Pray daily, pray faithfully, pray God's will!! Present yourself and those you love to God for His will and His purposes, and give yourself daily to Providing the direction, encouragement, support and love that those whom you touch so need. **YOU CAN DO IT....**

The question?....

WILL YOU?....

Let us pray!