Series: Joyful Arrivals Passage: 1 Samuel 1:12-20 Sunday: December 8, 2024

This week we are entering into our Advent series. This series will be looking at 4 different miraculous births found in the Bible!

1 Samuel 1:12-20

¹² As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. ¹³ Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman. ¹⁴ And Eli said to her, "How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you." ¹⁵ But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. ¹⁶ Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation." ¹⁷ Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him." ¹⁸ And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your eyes." Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

¹⁹ They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰ And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the LORD."

1. Read all of 1 Samuel, chapter 1. How does the context support or change your understanding of this miraculous birth?

2. Hannah asked the Lord to look upon her sorrow, and He did. What does it mean to you that our Creator cares enough to answer your prayers?

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- 3. How does Hannah's steadfast prayers to the Lord give you hope in seasons of waiting in the unknown?
- 4. What do you find most difficult about letting go and relying on God through prayer?

5. Think about what gifts you offer to God. Are they sacrificial? Why is sacrifice so important in our relationship with God if we could lose our precious gifts? Why would it be worth it?

6. How does Samuel's birth relate to the joyful arrival of baby Jesus?

7. How is God's faithfulness magnified through this passage?

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