

*Amazing Grace- The Era of Judges
Women in the Word- June 23-24, 2021*

Samuel

1 Samuel 1-3,7-8

1. Greet everyone at your table and share your name. What is your favorite 4th of July food?
2. Read 1 Samuel 1:1-9. What do you learn about Hannah?
3. How does Hannah deal with her difficult situation in 1 Samuel 1:10-11?
What does she vow before the LORD as she pours her heart out to Him?
What is God's response to Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 1:19-20?
4. Read 1 Samuel 1:21-28 and recount how Samuel's mother keeps her vow to the LORD.
5. 1 Samuel 2:1-11 is a prayer of praise lifted up by Samuel's mother. Where do you see evidence of God's sovereignty in her prayer? How would her words encourage Samuel as he begins a life dedicated to the LORD?
6. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-14. Describe Samuel's encounter with the LORD.

In Samuel 3:19-22, what do the Israelites recognize about Samuel?
7. What challenge does Samuel lay before Israel concerning their loyalty to the LORD in 1 Samuel 7:3-5? How do they respond to his challenge?
8. Intercessory prayer for Israel was an important part of Samuel's ministry. How do Samuel's prayers make a difference in 1 Samuel 7:5-10?
9. In Samuel's last years, Israel demands a change of leadership. Discuss Israel's request and Samuel's reaction in 1 Samuel 8:5-9.

List some of the negatives Israel will experience under a king according to Samuel in vv. 10-18.

In vv. 19-22, the LORD responds to their appeal for an earthly king. Why do you think He agrees to their request?
10. Samuel faithfully served the LORD all his life as Israel's judge and prophet. What impresses you about Samuel's life story as Israel's final judge?

Samuel

God's Sovereign Hand on Israel's Last Judge

1 Samuel 1-3,7-8

Consecrated Before Birth

1:1-2:11

- Samuel's barren mother prays for a child and vows to dedicate him to the LORD.
- Samuel's name, which means "God hears" reflects God's hand on his life.
- God uses Hannah's barrenness for His sovereign purpose.
- Praise for the sovereignty of God ushers Samuel into his lifelong ministry.

Look and see the LORD's hand on your life.

_____ Him for His salvation and His sovereign power displayed in your life.

Called at a Young Age

2:12-3:21

- God rejects the priesthood of Eli and his sons because of their sin.
- Samuel thrives physically and spiritually as he ministers to the LORD.
- Samuel responds obediently when he recognizes the LORD's voice.
- His first act as a prophet is to reveal God's plan concerning Eli's sons.
- All of Israel accept Samuel as a prophet of the LORD as his words are proven true.

Listen constantly for the LORD's _____.

Be _____ to reply "Speak, for your servant hears."

Committed for Life

7:1-8:22

- Intercession for Israel before the LORD was a priority in Samuel's ministry.
- God answers Samuel's prayer by supernaturally defeating the Philistines.
- The memorial stone, called Ebenezer, commemorated God's triumph and Israel's trust in Him.
- Samuel is dismayed by Israel's insistence on a king to rule over them.
- After Samuel's warnings to Israel, God grants their repeated request for an earthly king.

Follow God faithfully and _____ to His plans.

The plans of our Sovereign God stand firm through all generations.

Key: Praise, voice, ready, submit

Amazing Grace – Samuel 1 Samuel 1-3, 7-8
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PROVERBS 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

EPHESIANS 1:4a [E]ven as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

JEREMIAH 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

PSALM 139:15-16 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

DEUTERONOMY 18:22 [W]hen a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

LUKE 9:35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!”

JOHN 10:27 “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”

PSALM 33:11 (NIV) But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.