



Motherhood- The Unspoken Calling

1 Samuel 1

As a mother, if you could have anyone truly understand one thing that you feel about being a mother, what would it be?

Like Hannah, the feelings of Motherhood are often overwhelming and difficult to put into words.

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Isaiah 49:15

Does Anyone Understand?

We live in a society that reduces motherhood to a ROLE, but many times in the Scripture, it is revealed as a calling.

- Sarah → Isaac,
- Rachel → Joseph
- The wife of Manoah → Samson
- Rebekah → Jacob & Esau
- Hannah → Samuel
- Elizabeth → John the Baptist

Hannah's husband Elkanah clearly didn't UNDERSTAND.

Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?" 1 Samuel 1:8

Eli the High Priest thought that Hannah was DRUNK.

¹³Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk ¹⁴and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine." 1 Samuel 1:13

Even MOTHERS have a difficult time understanding the emotions that they feel when becoming a mother.

²²Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always."

Trying To Gain a Godly Perspective

Motherhood is so important because it shapes God's PEOPLE.

"I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice..." 2 Timothy 1:5

Social science shows that new mothers experience a RUPTURE in their sense of self. They grieve parts of their former identity even while embracing the new one.

- Guilt — feeling like they're never doing enough
- Role overload — managing work, home, and children simultaneously
- Emotional invisibility — sacrificing their own needs so quietly no one notices
- Loss — a sense that something of "who they were" was set aside

"Identifying Maternal Needs Following Childbirth" — NIH (2017)

²⁴After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. ²⁵When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, ²⁶and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. ²⁷I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I

asked of him. ²⁸So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

Motherhood is so important because it reflects God's HEART_____.

Though she may forget, I will not forget you! ¹⁶See, I have

engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me. Isaiah 49:15b-16

how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

Matthew 23:37b

¹²For this is what the LORD says: "I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. ¹³As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." Isaiah 66:12-13

Research confirms what mothers instinctively know: most women interviewed say they could not fully predict or adequately convey the depth of love and emotion they felt upon becoming a mother.

-Rhonda Nordin- After the Baby: Making Sense of Marriage After Childbirth 1989

These feelings are the FINGERPRINT of God on the calling to motherhood.

Motherhood is so important because it carries on God's PLAN_____.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. Genesis 3:15;20

Adam- Thorns from labor.

Eve- Pain in childbirth.

¹⁵But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety. 1 Timothy 2:15

"But women will be saved through *the child's birth*..."

Jesus- wore Adams (mankind's) thorns as his crown and offers to exchange it for a crown of life.

Born from out of Eve's (women) pain and offers to exchange it for Joy and gladness (salvation).

²¹ When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vow, ²² Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always."

²³ "Do what seems best to you," her husband Elkanah told her. "Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the LORD make good his word." So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

²⁴ After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. ²⁵ When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, ²⁶ and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. ²⁷ I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. ²⁸ So

now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

One of the most consistent themes in research on motherhood is this: mothers feel unseen. Not unloved. Not unappreciated in word — but unseen in practice. They need to share their experience of life. They need to be reassured. They need to feel understood.

"Mothering Ideology" — Springer Nature (2022)

"The Invisible Shift: The Mental Load of Motherhood"

This is not weakness. This is the cost of love poured out.

¹⁸ But Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home. ²¹ And the LORD was gracious to Hannah; she gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD.