

AWARENESS.SKILLS.KNOWLEDGE.
Intergenerational Women's Ministry
St. Matthew AME Church
Reverend Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher
23 January 2021

This month provides an overview of how her

Spiritual Gifts

Personality (Presence/Perspective)

Experiences (Positions/Protection)

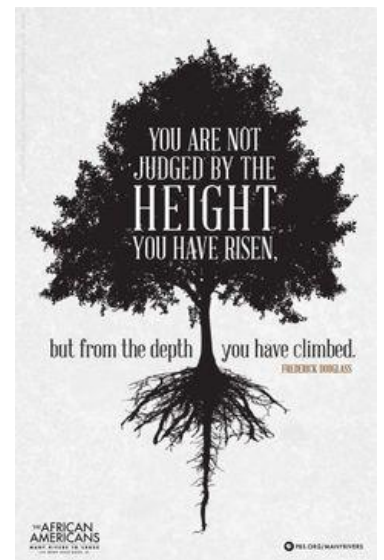
Cares/Passions

Interest

Abilities

Life Talents

contributes to her special God-given purpose;
equipping her to **minister to all God's children.**



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All Women of the Bible by Herbert Lockyer - Hannah
Pages 64-67

AWARENESS

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Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the Lord had closed her womb.

1 Samuel 1:4-5 (NIV)

Hannah

- Name means gracious, graciousness, or favor.
- She was the favorite wife of Elkanah, a Levite, member of the honorable family of priest, a polygamist.

Family Connection

- Hannah was barren and may have urged her husband to take another wife so his name might be perpetuated.
- She became the mother of the renowned Samuel who also born three other sons and two daughters.
- Hannah is a beautiful example of how the most unpleasant and untoward circumstances can produce a character blessing the world.

Her Sanctity

- Hannah appeared as a woman with an unblemished character.
- She cried day and night unto the Lord and was heard in that she feared Him whom her soul loved.
- Because of her godliness, devotion, trust, patience and self-sacrifice, she came to be blessed of the Lord and in turn, communicated to her renowned son Samuel something of her saintliness of life and character.

Her Sorrow

- Hannah had a house but did not have a home for she had no children, no family.
- Comforting her, Elkanah asked "Am I not better to thee than ten sons?" But Hannah longed for a son out of her own womb by love.

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- Her barrenness was a greater burden because of the jealousy and the heartlessness of her rival, Peninnah, who frequently tantalized Hannah for being childless because Elkanah loved Hannah and bestowed a double portion upon her.
- Can we wonder that Hannah referred to herself as, “a woman of a sorrowful spirit”?
- Although the Lord had “shut up her womb” her heart was still open toward Him.

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Her Supplication

- Childless, Hannah was not prayerless. Barren, she still believed and her pain found refuge in her prayer.
- She bargained with God and kept her bargain.
- She took a particular sorrow to God and prayed not that Peninnah's joy might be less, but that He would take away the cause of her own anguish. (Powerful!)
- Her prayer was supplication without external speech. Her lips moved but there was no sound. It was internal thus giving the impression that she was drunk with wine as was reasoned by the old priest Eli.
- Hannah protested her innocence and declared that she had never taken strong drink and poured out her soul to Eli.
- “Go in peace” Eli said and she went believing, no longer sorrowful, forlorn, but joyous and when the yearned for child came she named him Samuel which means “asked of the Lord.”

Her Sacrifice and Lessons Learned

- She prayed, promised and after weaning Samuel she gave him to the House of the Lord only visiting him once a year.
- Excellencies of many men have been foreshowed in character of their mothers.
- We discover thoughtless, unloving words of ours can give sorrow to others and that why we must guard our tongues (James 3:9-10).
- The heart of God is a comforting retreat for a sorrowful soul.

Application Today

- Don't be hasty in our conclusions, we can wrong others with our mis-interpretation.

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SKILL

Step Eleven of Twelve: Proclaim

For just preaching the Gospel isn’t any special credit to me—I couldn’t keep from preaching it if I wanted to. I would be utterly miserable. Woe unto me if I don’t. If I were volunteering my services of my own free will, then the Lord would give me a special reward; but that is not the situation, for God has picked me out and given me this sacred trust, and I have no choice. Under this circumstance, what is my pay? It is the special joy I get from preaching the Good News without expense to anyone, never demanding my rights. 1 Corinthians 9:16-18 (TLB)

Jesus and Justice

Included the Excluded

- Showing compassion toward social outsiders - Lepers: Matthew 8:1-3; Mark 1:40-44; Luke 17:11-19;
- Protesting gender inequality - Women: Matthew 9:19-26; Luke 10:38-42; John 20:11-18
- Embracing the excluded - Children: Matthew 18:1-7; Luke 18:15-17

Challenged Cultural Practices

- Rejecting racism - Samaritan woman: John 4:1-42
- Dignifying second-class citizens - Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-37
- Risking one’s reputation - Drunkards and prostitutes: Matthew 9:9-13; Matthew 21:28-32; Luke 7:36-50;

Advocated for the Oppressed

- Advocating for the poor, hungry, sick and imprisoned: Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 14:12-14;
- Advocating for the privileged - Rich ruler and Nicodemus: Luke 18:18-27; John 3:1-16
- Releasing the oppressed - Demons of the soul: Mark 1:21-34; Luke 4:16-21



I can speak, teach, preach, witness to the following issue/concerns:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

(4) _____

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1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Dear (insert your name) _____;

Today I engaged in a conversation on gifts of proclamation and what that means as God moves me from where I am to where He wants me to be. Because of what I heard, shared, learned, witnessed, thought about, I want to remember most



Blessings Overflow,

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