

Given Back to God

1 Samuel 1-2

Why so desperate for a son?

- **natural for a woman**
- **painful without 1.6-7,10,15-16**
- **concerned for revival 1.11**

**Eli, the priest: lazy 1.9; lax 1.14;
lacking discernment Acts 2.13**

**Eli's sons: wicked, no time for God
sinful, contemptuous 2.12,17
immoral, indifferent 2.22-25**

1. Examine Motives when asking for anything from God

**not for our own pleasure James 4.3
but for the Father's glory John 15.7-8**

- **be open to his purposes**
- **his grace is always sufficient**

2 Cor 12.8-10

2. Keep Promises made to God

beware of being rash Eccles 5.1-7

- *Elkanah – took the initiative in taking his family to ‘church’ 1.21*
- *Hannah – took her son 1.24 to serve the Lord 1.26-28*

God is no one’s debtor 2.21

Mk 10.28-30; Acts 20.35

3. Nurture the Young for God

- *Hannah’s role 2.19*
practical provisions Mk 9.41
- *Eli’s role - spiritual guidance 2.18*
worship 1.28
growth 2.21,26; Lk 2.52
- *service begins with worship 2.2*
- *service leads to growth 1 Tim 3.13*