

International Christian Fellowship of Oulu



Worship Meeting on Mother's Day

Sunday, 9 May 2009

Prepared by Bastian and Corrina

Time <i>(tentative)</i>	Activity	Persons & Resources
15.30	Songs <i>I will enter His Gates</i> <i>Shout to the Lord</i>	Hymn book "Mission Praise", song sheets, guitar, piano, data projector & screen, music group
	Welcome Words & Opening Prayer	Bastian
15.45	<p>Topic: Good example of a mother and child in relationship to God</p> <p>Hannah and her husband Elkanah cannot get a child/son. Hannah is sad, she weeps and prays, making a vow "O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life" (1 Samuel 1:10). The priest Eli takes note and answers to Hannah that God will listen to her: "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him." (1 Samuel 1:17). Hannah then gets a son and she names him Samuel. Later on Hannah dedicates Samuel to the Lord's service with Eli the priest: "As surely as you live, my lord [Eli], 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." (1 Samuel 1:26-28). For the rest of his life Samuel remains a faithful servant.</p> <p>Hannah gives expression to her joy and gratitude in the Lord by means of prayer:</p> <p>Hannah's Prayer:</p> <p>¹ Then Hannah prayed and said: " My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn ^[a] is lifted high. My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in your deliverance.</p> <p>² "There is no one holy ^[b] like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.</p> <p>³ "Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed.</p> <p>⁴ "The bows of the warriors are broken, but those who stumbled are armed with strength.</p> <p>⁵ Those who were full hire themselves out for food, but those who were hungry hunger no more. She who was barren has borne seven children, but she who has had many sons pines away.</p> <p>⁶ "The LORD brings death and makes alive;</p>	Bastian

	<p>he brings down to the grave ¹⁴ and raises up.</p> <p>‣ The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts.</p> <p>‣ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. "For the foundations of the earth are the LORD's; upon them he has set the world.</p> <p>‣ He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. "It is not by strength that one prevails;</p> <p>‣ those who oppose the LORD will be shattered. He will thunder against them from heaven; the LORD will judge the ends of the earth. "He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed." (1 Samuel 2:1-10)</p> <p>Later on Samuel grows up at the temple in the Lord's favor. He ministers under the priest Eli, and Hannah and Elkanah visit him every once in a while. Hannah trusts in God, and after some time she gives birth to three sons and two daughters to take the place of Samuel (1 Samuel 2:20).</p> <p>Conclusion: What can we learn from this good example?</p> <p>(1) Hannah is a faithful mother in relationship to God; she asks and prays for personal needs (as in that time having a child/son was important) but keeps her vow and dedicates Samuel to the Lord.</p> <p>(2) In addition, she has a thankful and prayerful attitude towards God. She praises and gives thanks for God's greatness and mercy. Thus we can remember and apply her attitude in our lives and relationship with God.</p> <p>(3) Last but not least, we can learn from her trustful character – she puts all her trust in the Lord, as Sarah and Abraham with Isaac (Genesis 21-22). Or think about Mary and her son Jesus (Luke 1:46-56).</p> <p>In general, we can also see that such a mother as Hannah (or parent in general) that is and remains faithful, thankful, prayerful and trustful may be a good example also for us as children of our mother (parents).</p>	
16.10	<p>Thanksgiving Testimonies about Mothers Let's have volunteers (2-3) to share about examples of our mothers who by their virtue encourage us as children to keep and practise our faith in Jesus Christ (5-10 min): Corrina (Hsiao-Fen) David Olsen Let's also spend some time and pray for our</p>	<p>Volunteers: Corrina David Olsen</p>

	<p>mothers (5 min) <i>Praying in small groups, pray for your/our mothers, their needs and concerns etc.</i></p>	
	<p>Songs (Choose two from the song book or sheet)</p>	<p>Hymn book "Mission Praise", song sheets, guitar, piano, organ, data projector & screen, music group</p>
	<p>Announcements</p> <p><i>* Bible Study Tuesday, 12 May at 19.00 Bastian's place, Romans 13</i></p> <p><i>* Ladies' Night Friday, 15 May at 18.00 Hasmik's place, Koskitie 74 B</i></p> <p><i>* Truth Gathering II Saturday, 16 May at 11.00 Free Church, Kirkkokatu 34</i></p> <p><i>* Worship Meeting & Info Session on Evolution & Creation Sunday, 17 May at 15.30 St. Luke's Chapel, Yliopistokatu 7</i></p> <p><i>* German Worship Service Sunday, 17 May at 18.00 Free Church, Kirkkokatu 34</i></p> <p><i>* Worship Meeting and Info Session on Evolution & Creation Sunday, 17 May at 15.30 St. Luke's Chapel</i></p> <p><i>* Network Meeting Sunday, 31 May at 13.00 Pentecost Church, Uusikatu 76 http://nfac.wordpress.com</i></p> <p><i>* Kellonkartano International Summer Camp Friday, 24 July – Sunday, 26 July 2009 Kellonkartano Christian Recreation Centre</i></p>	
16.30	<p>Invitation to Fellowship Time</p>	
16.35	<p>Fellowship Time Voluntary Offertory (for God-child & Missionaries)</p>	
17.15	<p>Cleaning Up</p>	<p>Volunteer(s)</p>