

Harvest Bible Chapel
Small Group Questions
August 9, 2009

Marginalizing God 1 - Hannah

1. Describe your Sunday morning pre-church ritual. Why is so easy to marginalizing God on your way to church to worship God? Describe your Sunday post-church ritual. Do you find it difficult to make God center to what you do outside of Church?
2. Read Judges 21:25. What does the scripture mean when it says, "Everyone did what was right in his own eyes?" How did the absence of a king contribute to the problem? How does our culture mirror this verse? What is relativism? What is pluralism? What is tolerance? Who promotes this in our culture? How can these be dangerous?
3. When you read the Old Testament do you ever make the mistake of thinking what God did in history is not relevant to you? What questions should we ask when we read the story of how God worked in human history? The future of God's people rested on Hannah prayer. How does Hannah's story fit into the history of salvation?
4. Have you ever felt like you were insignificant in what God is doing in history. How does the story of Hannah teach us God interacts with human history? Do you really believe that God could use your prayers to accomplish is will on earth?
5. Describe what you think Hannah felt when her husband married a second wife. Describe what she felt when Penninah ridiculed her. Describe what she felt when God would not give her a child. Describe what she felt like when Eli accused her of being drunk.
6. Have you ever felt these disappointments? Describe what you felt. Disappointment is the cross road of marginalizing God. How did these disappointments affect your relationship with God? Have you ever marginalized God because he did not answer your prayer the way you thought he should?
7. Describe a time when you prayed a prayer of desperation. How did God answer?
8. Read James 4:3. What prevents the answer to many of our prayers?
9. As a parent, do you/have you trained your children to be agents of change to turn the heart of the next generation toward God? Have you surrendered them to God to be used as he desires? Do you get more upset at poor academic performance or poor spiritual performance?
10. Read Hannah's prayer of worship in 1Samuel 2:1-10. What do we learn about God in her prayer? Use Hannah's prayer as the basis for your prayer time. Personalized it to your circumstances and pray it back to God.