

The Women Who Knew . . .

Huldah, Miriam, Deborah, Abigail, Esther, Hannah and Sarah

Session 6 - Hannah: Extravagant Giving

Talkback with Pastor Brad

I Samuel 1:9b-23a

- 1) Do you agree that Hannah may have interpreted her initial barrenness as God's judgment of her? How does the practice of lament help to ease the shame she felt? How does your congregation encourage folks to practice healthy lament? Share an occasion when you prayed with desperation, "Lord, remember me!"

They Knew Something

- 2) Identify within the Song of Hannah (I Samuel 2:1-10) theological themes which will be repeated in the Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55). In the case of Hannah, what did she know?

Jesus and the Women

- 3) In Bethany a woman is chastised by some because of her extravagant giving in devotion to Jesus (Mark 14:3-9) - but honored by Jesus, and honored in history! How is this scene an anticipation of Jesus' death? How does it anticipate the life experience by His followers when they perform the *good service* (v. 6) of extravagant offering?

Go Deeper

- 4) Hannah is not the only human mother who had to *give back* her firstborn son to God. Review the crucifixion scene in John 19:25b-27. Recall the legitimate aspects of grief and sadness which are re-lived among us in Holy Week each year. Describe also how our remembrance of God's incredible generosity on Good Friday (John 3:16) ought to engender generosity in disciples of Jesus today.