

Sermon Title:  
"Hope For The Home"  
I Samuel 1-3

INTRODUCTION:

**I. Good Parents Follow Great Models (1:1-2:10)**

A. Good parents learn to take their problems to God (1:1-28).

1. The problems of Hannah:

- a. Infertility (v. 5).
- b. A rival's criticism (v. 6).
- c. Persistent distress (vs. 7-11).

B. The solution—leave your problems with God (vs. 12-28)

**II. Good Parents Learn to Praise God (2:1-10)**

A. The content of the song is focused on the "Lord" (2:1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10).

B. Hannah praises the Lord for who He is:

- a. He is holy (v. 2).
- b. He is all-knowing (v. 3).
- c. He is strong (v. 4).
- d. He is compassionate (v. 5).
- e. He is life-giving (v. 6).
- f. He is rich (v. 7).
- g. He is sovereign (v. 8).
- h. He is protective (v. 9).
- i. He is all-powerful (v. 10).

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**III. Good Parents Don't Make Bad Assumptions (2:11-36)**

- A. Good parents don't assume that godly parents necessarily produce godly offspring (2:11-17).
- B. Good parents don't assume that godly talk necessarily produces godly offspring (2:22-25).
- C. Good parents don't assume that there are no consequences to bad behavior (2:27-36). Note—Eli got fat eating the meat stolen by his sons from the altar of God (2:29) and he died old and heavy (4:18, 17).

**IV. Good Parents Know Each Child Needs to Hear the Voice of God (3:1-21)**

- A. Good parents know that it is important for their children to know about God (2:11, 18, 21, 26, 3:1).
- B. But good parents know that ultimately each child needs to know God personally (3:7, 19).

CONCLUSION TO THE STORY: STEPS TO GOOD PARENTING:

- 1. Expect to hear the voice of God.
- 2. Trust in God's grace despite your problems (Hannah means "grace").
- 3. Sing praise songs to God about the character of God.
- 4. Know you can't produce godly offspring—you can teach your children, you can bring them to church, but you can't believe for them. One day they must make your faith their faith, so teach them to love God's word and prayer. Train them to spend time daily in prayer and Bible study knowing that when they say "I heard the voice of God today," they are on their way to becoming genuine children of God!