

July 22, 2015

*Every moment  
is a teaching  
opportunity.*

## FAMILY DEVOTIONS

# ROOTS OF TRUTH AND WINGS OF FAITH

"I prayed for this child. The Lord answered my prayer and gave him to me. Now, I give him back to the Lord. He will belong to the Lord all his life..." 1 Samuel 1:27, 28 ICB

Hannah's heart ached and yearned for a child and Hannah, prayed. She anguished before the Lord and promised to offer her greatest gift back to Him, to her Lord...and she prayed for her child...And the Lord remembered her... (1 Sam. 1:19) Her faithful and trustworthy God gave to her the gift and the blessing of baby Samuel who was destined to become one of Israel's greatest prophets... He will belong to the Lord all his life.

## DEDICATION AND DEVOTION

Hannah was blessed as she was given the gift of a son...she was given the privilege of loving him, of feeding him, of nurturing him, and of dedicating him to her Lord, Yahweh Sabaoth, the Lord of Hosts, allowing him to be set apart for service to her God. She gave her precious son the opportunity to learn and to be rooted in the Truth of the God of Israel as he resided in the Tabernacle at Shiloh for the rest of his life. Her son Samuel was a gift from her loving God...but, as with all children, they are gifts, and are loaned and entrusted to us, the parents, for a brief time...

And we know that the time is very brief, how quickly they grow. And we have the privilege, the responsibility, and the blessing to teach them within the sanctuary of our homes, within our Family Life the Truth of our Yahweh Sabaoth...our Savior and our Protector. We are called to teach our children the Roots of Truth...and our summer time moments, and every moment offers countless opportunities to do so.

Scripture tells us that Samuel continued to serve the Lord, obeyed the Lord, grew up serving the Lord, pleased the Lord, listened to the Lord, and he followed the Lord; scripture also tells us that the Lord was with Samuel. And the Roots of Truth nourished and gave birth to the Wings of Faith which empowered and sustained Samuel as he answered the call of his God. Samuel was equipped to rise above the wickedness of his day, to soar, and to lead his people where the Lord appropriated and ordained...on the Wings of Faith, of belief and trust in his Almighty God.



## ROOTS OF TRUTH AND WINGS OF FAITH



And we parents are called to do the same within our homes...We are called to teach the Truth...and we are called to lead our children, to model for them, and to give them opportunity to experience and to embrace their own faith in a trust-worthy and faithful God. Within the sanctuary of our homes, our children can serve the Lord, obey Him, grow in Him, please Him, listen to Him, and follow their Lord, just as Samuel did...into the calling which He ordained for them, the life He planned for them.

\* But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do."

Psalm 1:2-3 NLT

I pray that your children and that my children and my grandchildren will delight in the Truth of their Yahweh Sabaoth...their Savior and their Protector... I pray that they learn to ponder, to think, and to reflect on Him, at all times. I pray that their hearts, minds, and spirits are anchored and rooted in the river of relationship with their Heavenly Father and that their lives bear the fruit of living faith every day of their lives, for the time which God gives to them. I pray that they, like Samuel, will listen, serve, and follow their King.

I am certain that this is what, we, believers and followers of Jesus want for our children, what we are seeking during our Family Time...during our Summer Time, utilizing every moment which we are given with them. They are blessings, and they are loaned and entrusted to our care for a brief time...for a time.

This summer as you finish strong, the investment into your family into your children is worthy of your time, your energy, your life always, always, as you teach them and lead them to Roots of Truth and Wings of Faith.

Grab your Bible, journal, a pen and some TIME. Invite your children to do the same...and enjoy the print-outs included for the young ones. (You will need their crayons or markers!)

Then gather around the kitchen table or throw out a blanket on the lawn..



## APPLICATION



Read together:

"I prayed for this child. The Lord answered my prayer and gave him to me. Now, I give him back to the Lord. He will belong to the Lord all his life..." 1 Samuel 1:27, 28 ICB

"The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up..." 1 Samuel 3:19 ICB

Discuss with your children that they been prayed for, just as Hannah prayed for baby Samuel. Share with them how they were prayed for before they were born, and that they are prayed for every day. Ask them how that makes them feel?

Discuss with them that children are blessings from God and that He has a plan for each person's life. Talk with your children about their own talents and strengths which God has given to them. How can they best utilize these gifts?

How did Samuel use his gifts from God? Explain that Hannah trusted God with her very special gift, her child. Discuss the faithfulness and the trust-worthy nature of God.

How does God want us to use our homes? What does he want parents to teach in the home? Discuss the importance of praying for one another, of obeying authority, and of serving God by serving others.

Plan a fun Family adventure which helps to teach God's Truth! Try a Treasure Hunt for hidden Bible verses...Sing songs which teach Bible verses...View a family friendly movie and discuss the content in relationship to God's Truth.

Enjoy your family as you teach and lead your precious ones!

### ROOTS OF TRUTH...WINGS OF FAITH...

[www.pluggedin](http://www.pluggedin.com) offers great entertainment resources and reviews.