

# Westwood Baptist Church



*Grounded. Growing. Going.*

Worship Guide for February 26, 2023

## Sermon Notes

### A Stark Contrast that Points Us to Christ

1 Samuel 2:12-36

In the first section of I Samuel 2 we hear the song of a faithful mother. Hannah praises the Lord and declares “there is none holy like the LORD”. In the next section of chapter 2, we begin to see the son of a faithful mother as Hannah’s son, Samuel, begins to serve and minister “in the presence of the LORD”. Samuel is described as a boy who is growing “in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man.”

In this passage we see two other sons who are a picture of unfaithfulness, who, although they are priests, are described as “worthless” and are infamous for their corruption and contempt for God. What we will discover in this passage is a stark contrast that, in the end, points us to Christ, “a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in [God’s] heart”.

#### Eli and His Family

*“Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the Lord.”*

Corrupt  
Contemptuous  
Abusive  
Inept  
Judged

#### Samuel and His Family

*“.....she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.”  
“Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature  
and in favor with the LORD and also with man.”*

Consistent  
Quiet  
Faithful  
Growing

#### God’s Prophetic Promise

*‘Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me  
shall be lightly esteemed. ....And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest,  
who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind.*

Personal  
Convicting  
Certain  
Christ-centered

**Applications:**

## Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*  
*teaching* and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom*..."  
- Colossians 3:16a

### Focus #1 : GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

### Focus #2 : ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

### Focus #3 : OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor  
**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor  
**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship  
**Deborah Rudd:** Children's Ministry  
Coordinator  
**Yvonne Hager:** Executive Assistant

#### Contact Us

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#### MARCH

2 Life Choices' Banquet @ 6:00 p.m.  
8 Evangelism Class-Session 3 @ 6:30 p.m.  
12 Daylight Saving Time begins @ 1:00 a.m.  
**\*\*15 Member's Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.\*\***  
22 Evangelism Class-Session 4 @ 6:30 p.m.  
23 Blood Drive (FLC) 10:30a.m.-3:00p.m.  
25 Women's Ministry Event @ 10:00 a.m.  
31 Mom 2 Mom Spring Consignment Sale

#### APRIL

1 Mom 2 Mom Spring Consignment Sale  
6 Maundy Thursday Service @ 7:00 p.m.