

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND

SMALL GROUPS NOTES

Sharing Christ through friendship

Week beginning 3rd April 2011

Readings: 1 Samuel 1 : 20-28 & John 19 : 25-27

Theme: Mothering Sunday

Welcome/ icebreaker	Optional Ice-Breaker <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who picked on you the most when you were growing up?• When you received a gift that was a total surprise?• What do you recall about the first time you left home for any significant time?
Worship	<i>Choose songs of praise/ worship which focus on thanking God for his love and faithfulness and bringing us together as one family such as <u>SOF</u> 43# Bind us together</i>
Word (refs.↓)	
1 Samuel v 22	Why do you suppose Hannah neglected the annual sacrifice?
1 Samuel v 22	How do you think Hannah felt giving Samuel to someone else to raise?
1 Samuel v 23	What does Elkanah mean by “ may the Lord make good his (or your) word”?
	What does the conversation between Elkanah and Hannah show of the nature of their marriage?
	What do you learn about Elkanah and his family? In what ways is Elkanah’s behaviour different from yours? What do you think about that? What changes will you make to your own behaviour?
1 Samuel v 21- 28	Have you or your parents made a vow? If you were dedicated early on how has that effected your life?
1 Samuel v 21- 28	What things or people in your life are most indispensable to you? Can you “give then back to God” as Hannah did?
	What is the most reassuring point of this story for you? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God Answers prayer• God hears prayer• God accepts even the “bitter soul”• God sends encouragers
John 19:25-27	What is Jesus telling his mother and disciple? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take care of each other?• No one is alone?• Care for the needy?• You need each other?• Spiritual family is important.
Witness	What do you think about Hannah? What do you think about what she says and does? What will you do in a different way because of this story?