NEW COVENANT Christian Ministries

SERMON NOTES May 12, 2024 Pastor Billy Johnson

The Stages of Motherhood I Samuel 1

"Mother's Day is a journey and it's filled with various stages, challenges, and joys." – Pastor Billy. Johnson.

There are practical lessons we can learn from each stage of motherhood. As we witness the journey of Hannah the scripture shares how although she was barren she was so loved and given double portion. She then asked God to not forget her, and to bless her with a child so that she may give the child back to God.

The Stages of Motherhood:

The Stage of Anticipation (I Samuel 1:9-11)

For Hannah, it started with the desire to have a child. Her prayers began before the blessing was given, showing her *anticipation* of the child to come. Prayer and anticipation prepared her for the blessing, prepared her heart, and prepared her family. As we pray and are in this process of preparation, God is changing us. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2) To everything there is a season; entrust God's timing and His purpose.

The Stage of Nurture & Care (I Samuel 1:21-23)

Nurturing is not just about providing food, clothing, and shelter. Nurturing is about building a strong and healthy emotional relationship between you and your child. Research shows a child can better handle challenges, experience a successful life, with the foundation of nurturance.

"Demonstrate your love through actions and words." – Pastor Billy. Johnson.

Stage of Guidance & Instruction (I Samuel 1:24)

This is a time of teaching, shaping character and instilling values. Be sure that your children are exposed to, guided by, and instructed by the things of God.

"Don't let the streets raise your kids." – Pastor Billy Johnson

Stage of Letting Go

Hannah followed through on her vow to give the child back to God. She let go as it is designed by God. It is in the "letting go" that they are released to fulfill their purpose in God.

"It's in the stage of letting go that they are released to fulfill purpose." – Pastor Billy Johnson

In closing, because Hannah was committed to following through on her word, she was entrusted with more children to fulfill the stages and release for God's work and purpose.