



Mother's Day



The background of the image features several branches of eucalyptus with green, rounded leaves and red stems, interspersed with blue, spiky thistles. The text is centered within a black rectangular box that has a thin brown border on its left and right sides.

SPEECHLESS: HANNAH (I SAMUEL 1:1-2:21)

1 Samuel 1:9 - 18 NLT

9 Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. **10** Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the Lord. **11** And she made this vow: “O Lord of Heaven’s Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the Lord, his hair will never be cut.”

1 Samuel 1:9 - 18 NLT

12 As she was praying to the Lord, Eli watched her. **13** Seeing her lips moving but hearing no sound, he thought she had been drinking. **14** “Must you come here drunk?” he demanded. “Throw away your wine!” **15** “Oh no, sir!” she replied. “I haven’t been drinking wine or anything stronger. But I am very discouraged, and I was pouring out my heart to the Lord. **16** Don’t think I am a wicked woman! For I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow.”



1 Samuel 1:9 - 18 NLT

17 “In that case,” Eli said, “go in peace! May the God of Israel grant the request you have asked of him.” **18** “Oh, thank you, sir!” she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad.

WHAT SILENCES OUR PRAYERS?

- 1. Ridicule from people close to us.**
- 2. Disregarding our pain.**
- 3. Church leadership ignoring us or even being corrupt.**
- 4. Our own anxiety and vexation sometimes makes us not want to say the prayer out loud.**

GOD STILL HEARS THE SILENT CRY

- 1. God was preparing the time to replace Eli's sons.**
- 2. God appointed Eli to be there that day to see her.**
- 3. Through Eli, God blesses Hannah – at the end, we see Eli blessing her repeatedly every year she comes up, leading to more children.**

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO US?

**1. Even though we feel pressured to not pray out loud, or we are ashamed of making our despair known, we should continue steadfastly in prayer
– year on year**

2. For us we have the additional helper:

"And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words."

- Romans 8:26 NLT

HAPPY

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