

On the Wings of Prayer

“Because thou hast been my help, therefore in
the Shadow of thy wings will I rejoice:”
Psalm 63:7

A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Goliath stood for forty days in the valley of Elah and defied the armies of Israel and the God of Israel. When young David confronted Goliath, he made the amazing proclamation of the purpose of his coming victory over this Giant. *“That all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.”* David is a central figure in God’s great plan of redemption of the lost human race. In Acts 13:22, God tells us why he chose David and tells of the eternal culmination of his royal lineage when he states; *“I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will.”* Then Luke adds under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, *“Of this man’s seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus.”*

God chose to begin this story in 1 Samuel with a barren and troubled young wife named Hannah. For a long time, she suffered the many failings of her culture. There was immorality both in the priesthood and in her household, and while she found no consolation there, she still had hope. Her great desire was for a son, and she knew where to turn as she came to offer her prayers to the God of Israel. She acted in faith on the truth stated in James 1:17, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”*

God answered Hannah’s prayers and gave her a son. She called his name Samuel, saying, *“Because I have asked him of the LORD.”* When Samuel was weaned, Hannah did an uncommon thing. She brought her son Samuel back to the House of God at Shiloh and left him there that he might serve the Lord for as long as he lived. When Samuel was old, having served God since childhood; he anointed David to be the King of Israel.

God begins the great story of King David by telling us of Hannah who gave back to God the precious gift that God had given to her in answer to her prayers. Has God given you the desire of your heart, - the answer to your prayers? God has been known to change the world when such a gift is given back to Him for His glory.

*John Peeples, IBFI Mission Director
Psalm 16:11*

***Daniel and Tammy Coates (Guatemala)** recently baptized three young men. One of the boys comes in on the church bus route. The pastor’s fellowship is able to meet once again. This is a time of encouragement, prayer, and planning church ministries. The Coates’ second oldest daughter, Jillian, is engaged. She and her fiancée, Milton, plan to marry in November 2021.

***Bill and Sharon Smith (Brazil)** have faithfully served in Brazil for 50 years. Their faithfulness has paid off with churches started and each now lead with a national pastor! Father's Day was celebrated at the church with several Dads in attendance.

***Heath and Caryssa Van Zandt (Church Planters-Rhome)** The Van Zandt's newborn, Silas, has come home from the hospital. His intestinal problems were corrected with surgery. Please pray that he would be in good health.

***Darrain and Mari Coker (Mexico)** reports the construction on the church building is making good progress. The children and youth of the church went on a camping trip. There were other churches who also participated. There was preaching, games, activities, etc. Two teenagers and one man came to Christ at the church recently.

Melissa Houston (Rio Grande Valley) reports VBS was an exciting time. Many helped with decorating and working with the children. There were Bible lessons, skits, games, crafts, and snacks. Melissa is preparing to lead choir again and ask for your prayers as she ministers in the Rio Grande Valley.

***John and Neila Yelle (Brazil)** have seen several trust Christ in recent months. Also, several have been baptized recently. The Lord provided a fiberglass pool to perform the baptisms. The Yelle's are celebrating 30 years as missionaries!

***Daniel and Michelle Jones (Rio Grande Valley/Mexico)** report 13 fathers present for Father's Day. VBS was well attended with a high of 123 present. A suitable building was found for the church. This will provide extra room that is needed.

***Harold and Lena Priday (Honduras)** have made a lot of progress on the new church building. They hope to move in soon. The new building will be a blessing and a lighthouse in the community.

“All my desire was the conversion of the heathen...I declare, now I am dying, I would not have spent my life otherwise for the whole world.”

-David Brainerd