

NAMES OF GOD

HOW BOASTING IN GOD'S NAME TRANSFORMS YOUR SOUL

Week 9: November 1-7

Welcome / Introduce Guests / Share Life
Recall the Guidelines / Open in Prayer

Share the Vision: The more you invest in group, the more you will receive from your time together. Let's be intentional to invest well today.

Hook Question: When have you been treated poorly by someone because they simply didn't like you?

Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:

Jehovah Sabaoth, The Lord of Hosts, is a frequently used name of God. This name declares that God is God over *all* earthly and heavenly armies. It is a declaration of His power and His authority over creation. While mostly declared in the Psalms of David and the writings of prophets, the first mention of this name is in a story about a woman in great despair.

Elkanah was a man who had two wives. Hannah was unable to have children, but Elkanah loved her most. Peninnah was his second wife and had several sons. Hannah and Peninnah were bitter rivals. Hannah did not like Peninnah because she was able to have children. Peninnah did not like Hannah because of Elkanah's love for her.

Each year Elkanah would take all his family to the city of Shiloh to worship and sacrifice to God. Each year he would give a portion of the meat sacrifice to Peninnah and her sons and then a double portion to Hannah because of his love for her. This would lead Peninnah to mock Hannah because of her inability to have children which grieved Hannah deeply. Elkanah would try to comfort Hannah by asking if he was enough for her.

One morning, in her despair Hannah woke and went to the doorpost of the temple to pray. Eli, the priest, was sitting at the doorpost. This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from 1 Samuel 1:9-18: *Remember to change up the storyteller often.*

Rebuild the story: *Group members retell the story based on what they remember.*

Read the story from 1 Samuel 1:9-18: *Ask the group to read these verses.*

Discussion Questions: learn to talk about God's Word with others...

- What sticks out to you the most about this story?
- What does this story teach us about ourselves?
- What does this story teach us about God?
- Who do you relate to in this story?
- How do you need to apply this story to your life this week?
- Who could retell the story for us? **CHALLENGE:** Tell the story to someone this week!
 - ***Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week. Close in prayer.***

