

1 Mar 2015: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: **When No One Understands**

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 1:1-18

1. Sometimes we feel no one truly understands us and no one is listening to our problems. We can struggle in loneliness. Hannah has the same feeling too. She was looked down upon by Peninah who despised her for being barren. An empty womb is regarded as a curse in the nation of Israel.
2. Hannah lived in the days of the Judges in which Israel was in spiritual darkness. Her husband Elkanah was a Levite and devoted to go to the Temple in the yearly festivals. Elkanah had 2 wives. Peninah had children but Hannah was barren. Elkanah did not understand Hannah's sorrows though he tried to give her more portion of gifts.
3. There is One who perfectly understands Hannah. He is God. Hannah prayed to God and wept sore and vowed to God to give the child to God if God opened her womb. Hannah continued in prayers earnestly.
4. The High Priest Eli did not understand Hannah and thought she was drunk. When Hannah prayed, her lips moved but without voice. Hannah was pouring her soul out to God. Even when no man can understand, God understand us.
5. In the end, Eli realized that Hannah was praying and told her to go in peace that God would answer her prayer according to His will. Indeed God answered Hannah's prayer by giving her a boy child whom she named Samuel.