SERMON OUTLINE

God-Focused Commitment

1 Samuel 1:21-28

- I. What Samuel's parents kept: Commitment is <u>keeping our promises</u> to God (1 Samuel 1:21-23).
 - A. Hannah confirmed her promise to God when Samuel was young (21-22).
 - True commitment begins as we acknowledge that we can't "have it all" in this life.
 - B. Elkanah joined Hannah in committing their son to be used by the Lord (23)
 - God often uses our spouse to confirm His leading.
 - Our obedience is always stronger when we have someone who joins us in our commitment.
- II. What Samuel's parents released: Commitment is <u>releasing to God</u> what we value most (1 Samuel 1: 24-28).
 - A. Samuel's parents considered sacrifice essential to worshipping God (24-25).
 - Commitment is often measured by what we surrender.
 - Giving is an act of worship that exalts God the recipient, not me the giver.
 - B. Samuel's parents released him to be completely used by God (26-28).
 - Gratitude to God motivates true commitment, not guilt (2 Corinthians 8:1-8).

Open Door Bible Church 11-17-13