

**ChristChurch London Life Group Discussion Outline – 09/09/07**  
**Lessons from the life of Samuel**  
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1. God blessed Hannah with children after she prayed and wept (1Sam 1:10). Psalm 126:5 says “Those who sow in tears reap in songs of joy “. It’s our prayer that God would bless us with many spiritual children. Spend some time praying for the people on your connections lists (to the extent this is possible in your location).
2. Hannah made a vow that once Samuel was born she would give him back to the Lord (1 Sam 1:11). What are the challenges, within a growing church, of making sure we give ourselves back to God whilst helping to release others to find their own expression of who they are in God? How can we work together to over come these challenges?
3. Samuel stayed faithful to the temple even though the leaders were not perfect. The call on us today is to love and stay faithful to the church. How can we encourage unity across the church and how does this impact our approach to relating with others?
4. Samuel’s response to hearing God’s voice was to say “Speak, for your servant is listening” (1 Sam 3:10). What challenges do we face trying to connect regularly with God? Can you suggest some good habits that we can develop to help make this easier?
5. Eli’s sons were treating the Lord's offering with contempt; they had made it into something for themselves (1 Sam 2:12-17). Sacrifice is always about worship. In what way does this challenge us about our approach to worship? How can we make sure our hearts are right when offering worship to God?