Hello!

I am so excited that you are reading my book, "Taking Your Dreams to God: A 14-day Devotional through the life of Hannah"! This study guide was designed to accompany my devotional and offers you questions for reflection, prayer points, and scriptures for further study that correspond with each daily topic. This study guide has been designed to give you the flexibility to use the devotional for both individual and group study.

Please grab a pen and your journal and prepare to go on a journey with God as you take your dreams and desires to the only One who can fulfill them.

Sincerely,

Sonyia Turner

Day 1: Defined By God

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-2

Reflection Questions

1. What statements or phrases do you typically use to describe yourself? *Write these down*.
2. Are these statements or phrases rooted in your identity in Christ? How did you come to believe these ideas about yourself?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God to show you what He says about you in His word.
3. Repent for the ways you have framed your identity around places of fear and shame.
4. Invite God to heal your heart in these areas and to remind you of His love for you.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Psalm 139:3
- Psalm 139:13-14
- Jeremiah 29:11
- Zephaniah 3:17
- 2 Corinthians 5:17

Notes

Day 2: Worship as a Lifestyle

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:3

Reflection Questions

1. What would you need to change in your life to make living a lifestyle of worship a priority?
2. Why do you think it is important to talk about worship when discussing your dreams and desires?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Pray for your neighborhood, city, state, and nation.
3. Ask God to show you the areas that are hindering you from fully worshiping Him (physical, emotional, mental). Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have and pray for God's wisdom and courage to address these areas.
4. Ask God to show you how to live a lifestyle of worship each day.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- 1 Samuel 16:7
- Isaiah 29:13-16
- Romans 12:1-2
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- Hebrews 10:25

Notes

Day 3: Be Vigilant against Jealousy

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:4-7

Reflection Question
"One person receiving their blessing does not disqualify you from receiving yours." Is this statement easy or difficult for you to believe? Why?

Prayer Points
1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask the Lord to show you if there is anyone you are jealous of or are comparing yourself to.
3. Repent for the ways you have hurt yourself or others because of jealousy and comparison.
4. Ask God to give you a vision for what He is doing in your life today. *Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.*
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study
What stands out to you about each scripture?
- Exodus 20:17
- Proverbs 14:30
- Proverbs 23:17-18
- Romans 5:3-5
- Romans 12:15a
- James 3:16

Notes

Day 4: Cry Out to The Lord

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:8-10

Reflection Questions

1. Who do you usually talk to when you need to vent your emotions? (Spouse, Parent, Friend, Mentor, etc.)
2. Do you feel like you can be completely vulnerable before God with your emotions?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God to show you the areas where you are running to friends, family, and others instead of running to Him. Repent and invite God into those vulnerable places.
3. Ask God to show you who you can share your emotions with.
4. Cry out to God for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Psalm 31:1-2
- Psalm 34
- Psalm 94:19
- Isaiah 61:3
- Matthew 11:28-30

Notes

Day 5: Praying Honest and Specific Prayers

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:10-11

Reflection Questions

1. Is it difficult for you to ask God for something specific? Why or why not?
2. The way that we come to God with our requests is important. Looking at Hannah's example, why do you think this is the case?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. "Hannah is honest before God with her emotions." Ask God to show you any beliefs that might hinder you from being honest with him. Write these down.
3. "Hannah comes before God with humility." Ask God to show you the ways where you have come to Him with an attitude of pride or entitlement. Repent and invite God to give you a humble heart.
4. "Hannah asks God for something specific." What specific requests would you like to make of God today? Write these down.
5. "Hannah vows to dedicate her desire to God." Submit your specific requests to God.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Mark 10:51-52
- Philippians 4:6-7
- Hebrews 4:15
- Hebrews 11:6
- 1 Peter 5:7
- 1 John 5:14-15

Notes

Day 6: Guarding Against Offense

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:12-16

Reflection Questions

1. Think of a recent time when you felt misunderstood or judged. How did you handle that accusation? How might you respond differently if you could do it over again?
2. What are some practical things you can do to help guard your heart against offense?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Invite the Lord to heal your heart from times where you have felt misunderstood or judged.
3. Ask God to help you forgive those individuals that misunderstood or judged you. Forgive each person by name.
4. Ask God to give you grace and wisdom when new opportunities for offense present themselves.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Proverbs 19:11
- Ecclesiastes 7:21-22
- Matthew 6:14-15
- Matthew 18:15-17
- Ephesians 4:2-3
- James 1:19
- 1 Peter 3:9

Notes

Day 7: Trusting God in the 'In-Between'

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:17-20

Reflection Questions

1. What dreams and desires are you entrusting to God today? *Write these down.*
2. What are some things you can do or say to remain hopeful while you trust God in the waiting?

Prayer Points

1. Make a list of your answered prayers. Thank God for His goodness.
2. Write down any dreams or desires you have given up hope on. Pray and ask God to renew your hope.
3. Repent for the ways you have not trusted God while you have been in the 'in-between.'
4. Ask God to show you scriptures to confess over your life while you wait for His promises to be fulfilled. Write these scriptures down and put them in a visible place.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Numbers 23:19
- Psalm 37:4-5
- Psalm 145:13
- Isaiah 55:11
- Luke 1:45

Notes

Day 8: Dedicate Your Desires to the Lord

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 1:21-28

Reflection Questions
"Often, we choose to hold on to our desires instead of releasing them to God because we are afraid. We are afraid of losing control. Or, maybe we are afraid that God won't really give us the desires of our heart. But these fears point to a lie in our hearts: we do not trust that God is good."

1. Is God the supreme source of your joy? If not, what is?
2. Do you believe that God is good? What evidence would you give to demonstrate what you believe about the goodness of God?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God to show you what you are holding on to that needs to be released to Him. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
3. Ask God for the courage to fully surrender your hopes and dreams to Him, then pray "God, I surrender [insert hope or dream] to You..."
4. Praise God and thank Him in advance for how He will choose to answer your prayers.

Further Study
What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Psalm 16:11
- Matthew 6:21
- Matthew 6:33
- Matthew 13:44-46
- Romans 15:13

Notes

Day 9: A Sacrifice of Praise

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 2:1-11

Reflection Questions

1. What is often your first reaction when you are in a tough circumstance?
2. Why do you think it is difficult to praise God in the middle of a challenging time?

Prayer Points

1. Make a list of hard circumstances that God has brought you through. Offer thanksgiving and praise to God for His deliverance.
2. Pray for the circumstance(s) in your life today that you don't understand.
3. Ask for God's strength to praise Him in the midst of the uncertainty.
4. Ask God to show you His grace for you today. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Psalm 100:1-5
- Psalm 50:23
- Psalm 51:17
- Acts 16:22-26
- Hebrews 13:15

Notes

Day 10: A Reverent Heart

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 2:12-18

Reflection Questions

1. In Psalm 16:5-6, the psalmist says "LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance." Where do you perceive God has drawn the boundary lines for your life in this season?
2. Are you content with where God has you? Why or why not?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God for His grace to trust His provision for your life.
3. Ask God to show you the areas of your life where you are going through 'religious motions' instead of operating out of a relationship of trust with Him. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
4. Repent and ask God for a heart that desires to honor Him.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- 2 Samuel 6:16-23
- Psalm 16:5-6
- Ecclesiastes 5:10
- Psalm 139:23-24
- 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Notes

Day 11: A Faithful Devotion - Part A

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 2:19

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to nurture the people, skills, talents, and ideas in your life?
2. How might comparison make cultivating the things in your life difficult?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God to show you the people, skills, talents, and ideas in your life that need to be nurtured.
3. Repent for the ways you have taken what God has given you for granted.
4. Pray for wisdom to be a good steward of what God has given you.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Proverbs 14:1
- Luke 16:10
- Galatians 6:9
- Colossians 3:23
- 1 Peter 4:10

Notes

Day 12: A Faithful Devotion - Part B

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 2:19

Reflection Questions

1. Think of a time when God answered a prayer differently than you expected. How did you respond? What did you learn from that experience?
2. What expectations (or ideas) do you have of God concerning your current dreams and desires?

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask God to show you the areas in your life where you have allowed something other than God's word to define your expectations (family, friends, culture, etc.). Repent and ask God to heal your heart.
3. Surrender your expectations, dreams, and desires back to God.
4. Ask God to define what your expectations should be of yourself, your dreams, and your desires at this time in your life. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Isaiah 55:8-9
- Jeremiah 29:11
- Romans 8:28
- 2 Corinthians 10:12
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Notes

Day 13: Above and Beyond

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 2:20-21

Reflection Questions

1. Think of a time when God answered a prayer in a far greater way than you expected. What did you ask for? How did God answer? What surprised you?
2. What are your "big" requests of God today?
3. Where are you in your journey of entrusting your "big" requests to God? (First steps or several years?)

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to offer thanksgiving and praise to God.)
2. Ask for God's vision concerning your "big" requests. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
3. Ask God to increase your faith for what He desires to do in your life.
4. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Genesis 18:14
- Jeremiah 32:17
- Matthew 19:26
- Mark 9:24
- Romans 5:4
- Ephesians 3:20-21

Notes

Day 14: Your Desire Is Bigger than You

Today's Reading: 1 Samuel 3:19-4:1a

Reflection Questions

1. Does your dream or desire give glory to God, or does the glory return back to you?
2. Imagine your dream or desire has been fulfilled. Who will be impacted by or benefit from God fulfilling your dream or desire? *Make a list.*

Prayer Points

1. (Take a moment to thank God for His goodness.)
2. Ask the Lord for faith to believe that His vision for your life is bigger than your own.
3. Ask the Lord to give you a vision of how your dream or desire might impact others. Write down any thoughts or impressions you may have.
4. Thank God today for the lives (and generations) that will be impacted as a result of your obedience to God with your dreams and desires.
5. Pray for your dreams and desires.

Further Study

What stands out to you about each scripture?

- Genesis 37:5
- Genesis 50:20
- Psalm 145:3-4
- Isaiah 42:8
- Jeremiah 10:23
- Ephesians 3:20-21

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