



RAISED TO RELEASE:

Stewarding What Belongs to God



SCRIPTURE FOCUS

1 Samuel 1 (Hannah and Samuel)
1 Samuel 2 (Eli's sons)
1 Samuel 8 (Samuel's sons)
Proverbs 22:6



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Children are a gift.
Not a possession.
Not an extension of us.
A gift entrusted to us by God.
And with that gift comes both
responsibility and surrender.



THE PRAYER THAT STARTED IT ALL

Before Samuel was a prophet...
he was a prayer.
Hannah prayed, wept, and believed
God for a child.
And when God answered her...
she gave him back.
Her vow wasn't emotional—
it was intentional.
She understood something powerful:
*What God gives, we are called to
steward—not own.*



THE WEIGHT OF EXAMPLE

Scripture shows us two sobering realities:

- Eli's sons rejected God despite being raised in the priesthood.
- Samuel's sons did not walk in his ways, even after his faithful leadership.

Being raised around God
does not guarantee a life
surrendered to Him.



A HARD TRUTH

Children can witness godly examples,
be taught truth, be covered in prayer...
and still choose their own path.



THE GENERATIONAL IMPACT

Sin is never isolated.
It can echo through families,
influence future generations, and
create cycles if left unaddressed.
But so can righteousness.

“ *What we model matters.
I was called to raise them...
not to own them.* ”



THE CALL FOR WOMEN

As women, mothers, and leaders in our homes:

- We are called to model godly behavior.
- We are called to reject what is wrong.
- We are called to correct with love.
- We are called to lead with integrity.

Not perfectly... but intentionally.



STEWARDSHIP, NOT CONTROL

We are responsible for:

- what we teach
- what we model
- what we cultivate

But we are not in control of
the choices our children
ultimately make.

That belongs to God.



FINAL REFLECTION

Raising children is not about
controlling outcomes...
It's about faithfully stewarding what
God has entrusted—and then
trusting Him with the rest.



JOURNAL PROMPT

Am I trying to control what only God can govern,
or am I faithfully stewarding what He has
entrusted to me?



PRAYER

Father,
Thank You for the gift of children.
Help me to steward them with wisdom,
love, and intention.
Teach me to model what is right, to correct with grace,
and to lead in a way that honors You.
And when I am tempted to control what I cannot...
remind me to trust You with what belongs to You.
They are Yours before they are mine.
Amen.

