



RAISING SAMUEL

SERMON SERIES

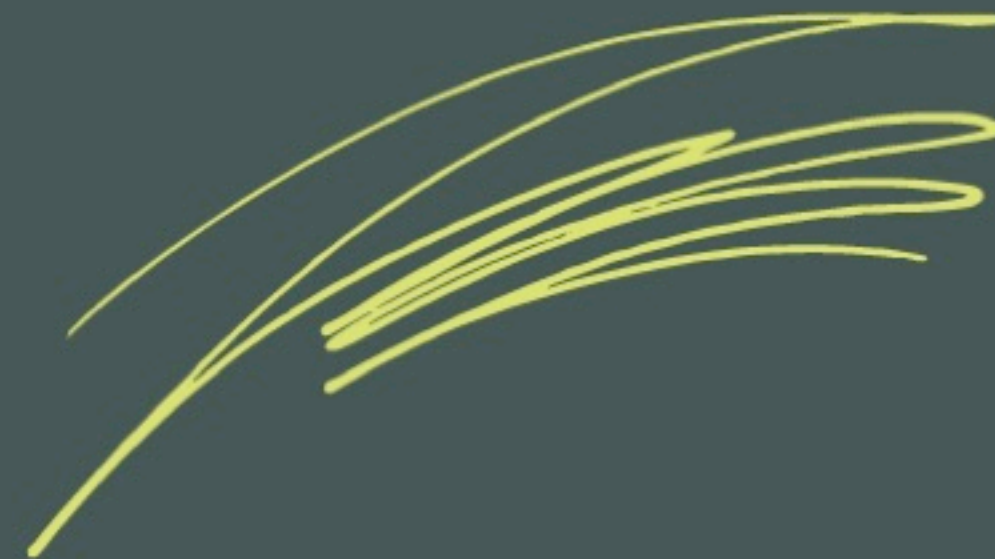
SPRING_2021

THE GREATER PURPOSE



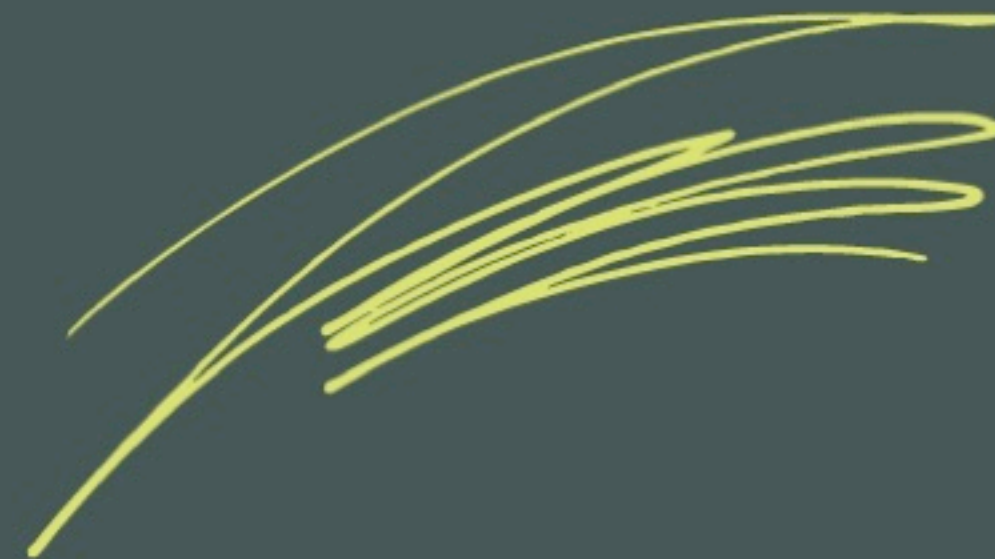
“It’s better to fail pursuing a cause that will succeed than succeed pursuing a cause that will fail.”

Peter Marshall



Only the call of God is eternal, meaningful,
and fruitful.

The call of God is not restricted to age or
full-time ministry.



Florence Nightingale

*Founder of Modern Nursing,
1820-1910*



If I could give you information of my life, it would be to show how a woman of very ordinary ability has been led by God in strange and unaccustomed paths. And if I could tell you all, you would see how God has done all, and I nothing. I have worked hard, very hard, that is all; and I have never refused God anything.”

²⁵In those days there was no king in Israel.
Everyone did what was right in his own
eyes.

Judges 21:25 (ESV)



¹There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ²He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



³Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the LORD Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the LORD. ⁴Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters.

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



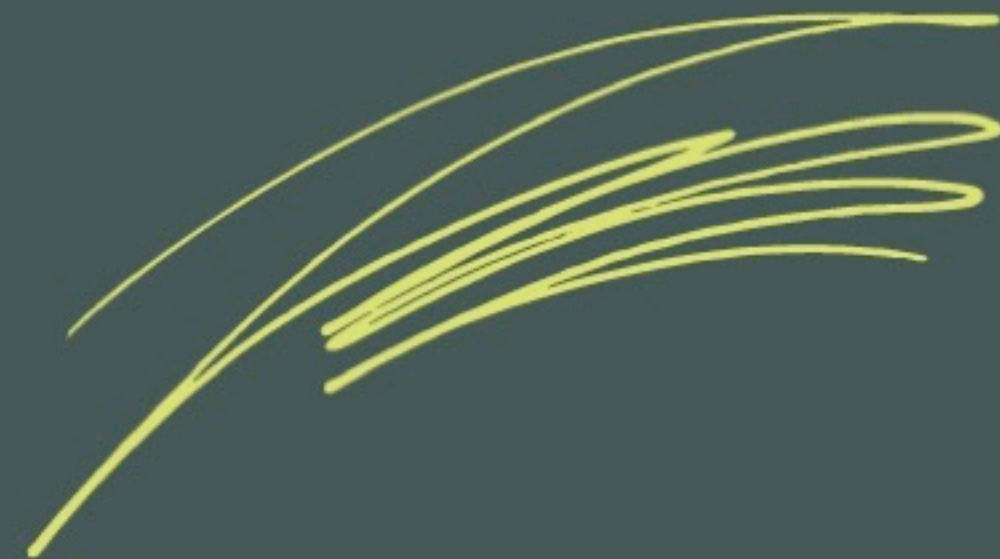
⁵**But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the LORD had closed her womb.** ⁶Because the LORD had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her.

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



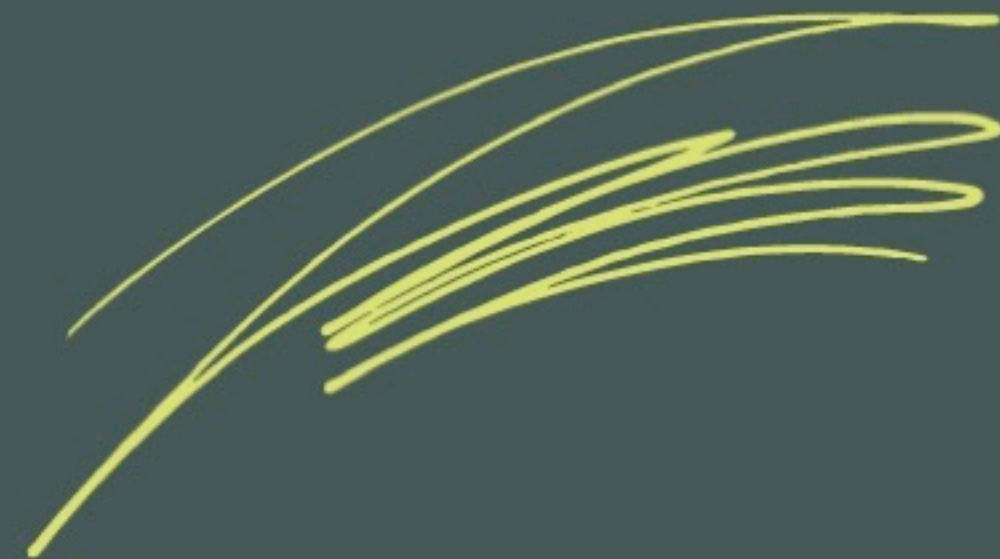
⁷This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. ⁸Her husband Elkanah would say to her, “Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don’t you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don’t I mean more to you than ten sons?”

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



⁹Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the LORD's house. ¹⁰In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly.

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



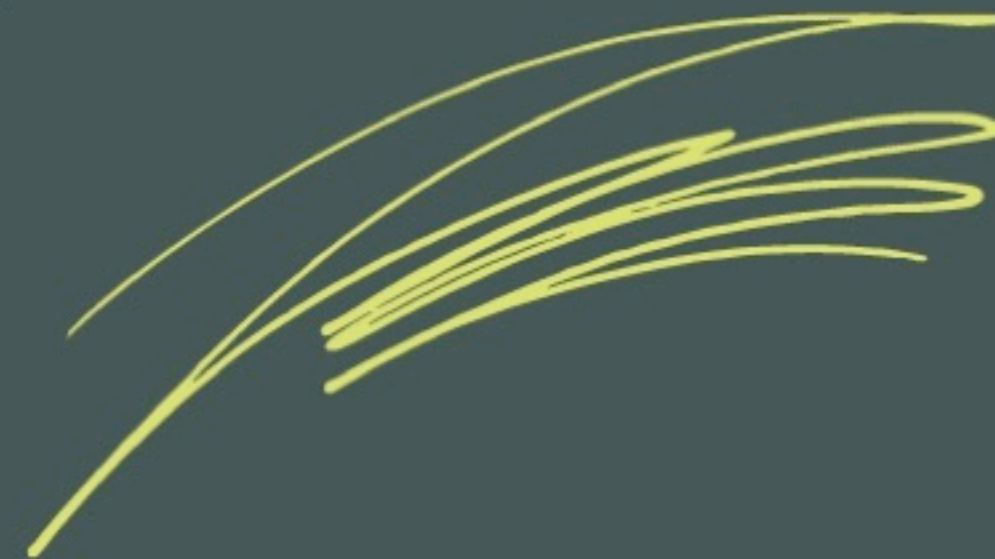
¹¹And she made a vow, saying, “LORD Almighty, if you will only look on your servant’s misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.”

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)



¹⁹Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, “Because I asked the LORD for him.”

1 Samuel 1:1-11, 19-20 (NIV)

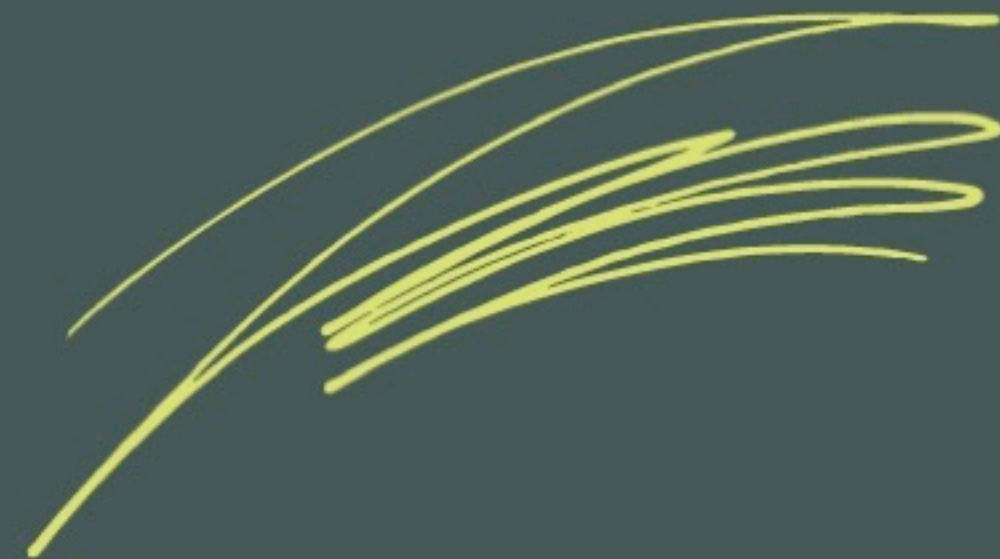


**For the Greater
Purpose, You
Have to Endure
the Delay**



Delays demonstrate God's power in a never-to-be-forgotten way . . . no situation is 'too far gone' for our all-controlling Lord to overrule and transform. Delay does not mean that God is neglecting you, much less that He has forsaken you . . . no sincere prayer in the name of Jesus is ever left unanswered; and delay is always with a view to an answer bigger and better than that for which we asked."

J. Sidlow Baxter



Two Types of Pain

1. The Present Pain

The emotional and psychological pain of life that we try to rid ourselves of.

2. The Pain of Absence

The additional pain that comes when we employ strategies that lack the help of Christ.



“Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but **shouts in our pains**. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain



**The Greater
Purpose is
Attained Through
Breaking**



Breaking: the deep work of God that makes us desperate enough to surrender our will to Him.



²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

John 12:24 (NIV)



The depth of your surrender will determine
the depth of your impact.

