

CELL NOTES 16.7.17

Ed Greening spoke movingly on the story of Hannah in **1 Samuel 1**

- 1) Ed pointed out that Hannah did not allow her disappointment to turn to bitterness, even in the face of Peninnah's provocation. Why is bitterness so dangerous and to be avoided at all costs? (Compare Hebrews 12:15)
- 2) Ed suggested there are two responses to disappointment and inexplicable occurrences: a) retreating into a defensive fortress or b) open-armed vulnerability like Jesus on the cross. What are the negative effects of the first? And how can we find strength to choose the second?
- 3) When God answered Hannah's prayer, she gave Samuel back to the Lord. What does this show about Hannah? And how is it a challenge to us?