**Elder Berry Ross March 8, 2020**

**Characteristics Of A Dangerous Prayer**

1 Samuel 2:8-18

**Key Truth:** Dangerous prayers are **special** petitions before God. Stemming from a deep **desire** that results in the community around you being blessed with **God** glorifying ramifications.

1. It all starts with **humility**.

 A. **Difficult** situations have a way of humbling us.

 B. **Serving** gracefully shines the light on humility.

 C. We can see the big picture with **humbled** hearts.

2. **Extraordinary** faith is a must.

 A. Believe that God can do the **impossible**.

 B. Extraordinary faith prepares us for the **long** haul.

 C. Keep **praying** until God answers.

3. A dangerous prayer will be **sacrificial**.

 A. Why is this prayer so important?

 B. What will it cost me?

 C. I am willing to do what God wants me to do.

4. There is an appearance of renewed **joy**.

 A. **Serve** in ministry like it’s already done.

 B. Put on the **countenance** as though your prayer

 was answered.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Spend this week on self-reflection and ask God how can you pray for greater things in our church and our community that will glorify Him.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

What has brought you the most joy in the past few years? The most grief? What brought relief from your grief?

When things go wrong, to whom do you immediately turn? What is your initial attitude?

What do you think it means to depend on God through prayer?

Read Luke 18:1-8: How do you tend to respond to God when He seems to say no to your prayers?

Read 1 Samuel 1:11: What stands out to you about the details of Hannah’s prayer?

What did Hannah intend for her son by her vow? What does this reveal about her?

Read 1 Samuel 1:21-28: Why is it significant that Hannah surrendered her future child to lifetime service to God? As a parent, what sacrifices would this require of her? Why would it be worth it?

Read 1 Corinthians 4:2:” How did Hannah view the things God gave her? Is this the same view you have? Why or why not?

Read 1 Samuel 1:28: What does lifelong service to God look like in your life? If you are a parent, is this an honest desire you have for your children?