

Principle – Favoritism is usually no _____ to the favorite.

Peninnah is the villain in this story,
but Elkanah was the problem.

Three concluding thoughts

1. Let's not be a Peninnah.
2. Let's not be an Elkanah.
3. Show love to all.

May we show a Christ-like love in all our relationships.

~ Pastor Mark D. Montgomery



The Sin of Favoritism

AM Service

I Samuel 1:1-7

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Introduction

Historical Setting

1. As 1 Samuel begins, Israel is at a low point spiritually.
2. Through the influence of godly Samuel and David, these conditions were reversed.

Theological Themes

There are four predominant theological themes in 1 and 2 Samuel.

1. The Davidic Covenant
2. The sovereignty of God
3. The work of the Holy Spirit in empowering men for divinely appointed tasks is evident.
4. The books of Samuel demonstrate the personal and national effects of sin.

Today, let's meet the first characters in this historical drama.

The Sin of Favoritism

Elkanah has a problem.

1. Who is Elkanah?
2. Elkanah had two wives.



3. Elkanah faithfully fulfilled his religious duties.

4. Elkanah shows favoritism to Hannah.

“an offering”

“the LORD had closed her womb”

Perspective – It would be hard to have two wives and to not

_____ one of them.

Challenge

- * Parents
- * Husbands and wives
- * Coaches
- * Teachers

To have a favorite _____ is not necessarily a problem.

But when we enter into the realm of close personal relationships -

- when we have to function in groups of more than 2,
 - when we have a position of authority,
- we have to be very careful not to not favorites.
- Not only will it damage your relationship with others,
 - not only will it hurt those who are not favored.
 - it may also hurt the “favored one.”

5. Elkanah’s favoritism creates a problem.

“favoritism” the favoring of one person over another
having equal claims

What problems did Elkanah create by his favoritism?

- a. Peninnah viewed Hannah as her rival.
- b. Peninnah raged at Hannah.
- c. Peninnah caused Hannah to be agitated.
- d. Peninnah was relentless.
- e. Hannah was overcome with emotion.

Elkanah’s favoritism created a big problem for Hannah.

Conclusion

As we conclude, let’s formulate some principles about favoritism.

Principle – Favoritism will turn others against the _____.

Principle – Favoritism may cause constant _____
of the favorite.

Principle – Favoritism often hurts _____ the person who
is being favored.

Principle – Favoritism can be emotionally _____
to the favorite.