

## **Connect Group Notes**

### **Week 2 - The Lost art of waiting (Finding purpose in the pain)**

#### **Start talking**

How good are you at waiting? Are there any areas where you find waiting particularly infuriating?

This week we are looking at the lost art of waiting including, the process of waiting and the effects that waiting has, both positive and negative.

#### **Start digging deeper**

- Can you think of seasons in your life where you have had to go through a period of waiting? How did you find this and how did it affect you?
- Is there something that you are waiting on God for at the moment?
- Can you identify a waiting season that was difficult for you that may have created wounds? How did you deal with these and what do they look like now?
- Read 1 Samuel 1:1-8 What stands out to you about this story? Are there any elements of it that resonate with you?
- How do these verses speak into the tension and difficulties in waiting?
- In what ways does God use seasons of waiting to transform and teach us? Do you have any examples of this in your own life? How have you been transformed through waiting?
- How do you respond or manage when it doesn't seem that God is answering you or when the delay is actually a denial and God saying 'no'.
- How can we respond well in these situations? How do you practically handle both clinging to God and wrestling with God when things are difficult?
- During the waiting seasons how do you stay focused on the promise of who God is rather than the results of the waiting?
- How can Hannah's attitude of 'going to worship the Lord once more' (v19) help us in these times?

#### **Start praying and listening to God**

Create some space for worship and prayer....

Having shared areas where we are waiting for God to move or waiting for an outcome now spend time praying for each other When praying consider how God uses waiting to bring transformation Pray and speak into these areas of waiting and for where transformation is taking place and what God might be trying to build...