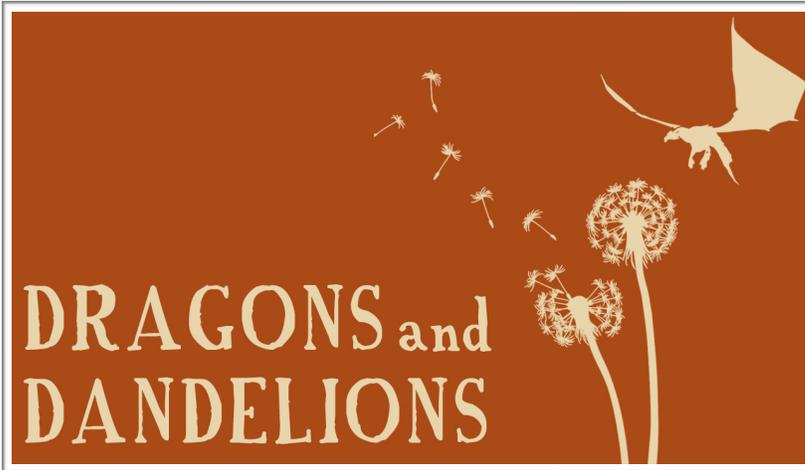


# KESSID SERMON NOTES



## Sermon

"Hope from a Hopeless Place"

## Date

9-16-18

## Speaker

Pastor Danny Clinton

**"Dragons and Dandelions is a teaching series built around learning to face through Christ, and together, the big and small, difficult to overcome struggles within our lives."**

**Clarity: "Both Dragons and Dandelions are the things in your life that are difficult to kill!"**

- And they don't all look the same...
- "No one ever knows fully what other people are battling inside... Someone could see an issue as a common dandelion, while to someone else, this same struggle is their greatest dragon."

**Last Week: We talked about how we don't stop and reflect because...**

"Stopping allows the hurt to catch up."

**We all start our healing by stopping to hurt.**

**Today: We're going to start by "Stopping to Sit in the Stillness."**

- Bullying or Body-Image
- Addiction or Apathy
- Lust or Loneliness, Etc.

**Today's Passage - Starts with a woman (Hannah) who's turning to face the HURTS chasing her...**

*(Vs) 1<sup>st</sup> Sam Ch 1:1-7 – There was a certain man ... of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham... He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD. On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. So, it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore, Hannah wept and would not eat. And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"*

- Hannah hurts deeply because of this great struggle in her life - Barrenness.

**To Hannah...**

- This was brought up as an everyday Dandelion by the other Woman...
- And at least once a year, it became a Dragon, when going to the Temple...

**Question: How often are we missing what lies beneath the eyes of the person sitting across from us?**

- I believe her husband gave her a double portion out of great compassion!
- Why? Because suddenly realizing you see things differently than those around you can feel very exposing, scary and lonely.

**Eventually Hannah went to a very rare and special place - Hopelessness**

- She finally Stopped to let it all catch up...

*(Vs) 1<sup>st</sup> Sam 1:9-11 – After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. And she vowed a vow and said, “O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head.”*

**Hannah's HOPELESS place is such an important part of her Story...**

- It's here that Hannah finally gave what she held most dear... Her Own Power!
- It's here we see the key to unlocking the beginning of our healing journeys...

**“Everyone's Story of Salvation begins in the same Hopeless Place!”**

*(Vs) Psalm 38:6,8,10 – “I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning... I am feeble and crushed... I groan because of the tumult of my heart... My heart throbs; my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.”*

*(Vs) Psalm 38:15-18 – “But for you, O Lord, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer. For I said, “Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!” For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever before me. I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.”*

**Its at this point God chooses to bless her...A clear picture of our salvation.**

*(Vs) 1<sup>st</sup> Sam. 1:18-20 – And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your eyes.” Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad. They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, “I have asked for him from the LORD.”*

## A gift has been given!

- She has the child and raises him knowing something we are all supposed to know as well...

**“When God saves us, all we are and all we have belong to Him.”**

## Hannah Returns – But with undeniably Raw HONESTY – 3 Years Later

*(Vs) 1<sup>st</sup> Sam. 1:24-28 – “And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore, I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.” And he worshiped the LORD there.*

- **Notice: “Lent” instead of “Give”** Really, she just gives back to God what was already His... BUT she does it with her humanity fully present and intact!
- You trusted me...and so “I will trust You as best I can!” – So, Will I.

## In the end, God does incredible things through the “loan” of her son and Hannah experiences God's Victory in her own life!

- Yes, we do all have these Dragons and Dandelions in our lives...
- But it's through our own Raw... **Hurts, Hopelessness** and **Honesty**, laid before God, that the first steps are taken toward Victory through His Son, Jesus!

**Question: What are you feeling right now? Can you LOAN those to God?**

**In Prayer: Ask God to meet you in your “Hopeless Place.” Loan your cares!**