

Chana's Anguish and Triumph **Questions to Guide *Hevrotah* Study for *Shmuel Aleph 1-2:11***

Verses 1-5: Elkana, Chana and Penina

1. Identify Elkana. Name at least three facts about him (i.e. where was he from, what tribe was he from (see his lineage), how many wives did he have, and why, what did he do every year?)
2. Who were his wives? Which one had children?
3. What did Elkana give his wives and children?
4. What did Elkana give to Chana and why?

Verses 6-10: Chana and Penina

1. Who made whom angry in verse 6?
2. Elkana states some powerful phrases in verse 8 which Chana does not find so comforting. What is the most powerful phrase and describe Chana's feeling when she hears it (look at verses 9 -10 also for a clue as to how she felt)?

Verses 11-18: Eli and Chana

1. What vow does Chana make?
2. What negative thought does Eli have about Chana?
3. Why does he feel that way?
4. Does Eli believe Chana's response?
5. How do we know (clue: does he bless her or curse her)?

Verses 19-27: Chana's Return

1. Why does Chana not want to bring Shmuel to Shiloh the next year with Elkana (what is she waiting for)?
2. Does Elkana agree with Chana? Why do you think he offers that opinion?
3. How many varieties of the **שורש ש.א.ל.** appear in verses 27-28?
4. What does this tell you about the meaning and power of Shmuel's name?