

All the people rejoiced!

·JESUS STRAIGHTENS THE  
BOWED WOMAN·



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2019 Alexandra Houck.  
Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

# The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

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## Rejoice for others!

**Have you ever been to** somebody else's birthday party? Maybe you watched as a friend or a brother or sister opened presents. Maybe you watched as he was excited with what he got. Were you happy for him? Or did you wish it was your day instead?



In today's Gospel reading we hear about a wonderful miracle our Lord did. Then we hear about how people reacted to it. A woman had had a bent back for 18 years. She couldn't straighten it out, so she had to walk around with her back bent over. Yes, for 18 whole years! Our Lord Jesus Christ had mercy on this woman. Even though it was the Sabbath, a special day to rest, Jesus healed her so she could straighten out her back again.

This was a great miracle for her, and it would change this woman's life! But still, the ruler of the synagogue was angry at Jesus. He told Him that He shouldn't have healed her because the Sabbath was a special day to rest—not to work! He was angry. But other people reacted a different way, "All the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him."

When good things happen to other people, let's not be like the ruler in the story today. He was angry and wanted to find something wrong. Let's always be happy for others. Let's hope the best for others, just as the people did in the Gospel story today. They rejoiced for her!

# WORD SEARCH

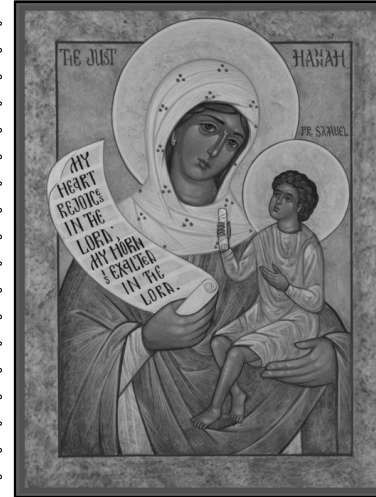
Can you find these words in the jumble?

- ANNA
- HANNAH
- HEALING
- MIRACLE
- PROPHETESS
- REJOICE
- SABBATH
- STRAIGHTEN
- TEMPLE

X H D K Z I E O X R C B B H L  
 N D Z M Y T C C I X S Z T A O  
 Q E B J M U I C B H A A V N W  
 C H T M X T O M C D B K B N E  
 L Z W H E K J H I B E J B A B  
 X N Y M G U E Z A R P Q X H G  
 D J P C U I R S H E A L I N G  
 Q L X J L F A T P X T C O Z N  
 E Y Z Z V E L R R X T L L V L  
 N Z R S Q H W U T M U P I E Z  
 E W G E C H X U P S V J O H B  
 Y F L N C E K J O E L E N L P  
 F G U V T C H A N N A R S H W  
 R O L O O M C L J S P N V H Z  
 S S E T E H P O R P F G U P N

# TURNING TO GOD IN PRAYER

## SAINT HANNAH THE PROPHETESS



**Have you ever prayed to God** for something you wanted very, very much? Sometimes we want something that doesn't really matter. But sometimes we might want something that we pray so hard for—for somebody to get well, for somebody to get a job, for somebody to stay safe.

Tomorrow, we celebrate a saint from the Old Testament (before Christ). Saint Hannah prayed very, very hard to God because she really wanted to have a baby. Once, she went to the temple to pray. She cried to God because it meant so much to her. Hannah asked God to let her have a child. God listened to her (He always listens) and He gave her a beautiful boy, Samuel. When he grew up, Samuel was a great prophet who helped God. Hannah had five more children too after that!

Hannah is a great example to us because she knew that when she had a problem, she could turn to God first. She wasn't angry at God because she didn't have a child. She loved God, and she asked Him to help her.

Also, after she had this beautiful gift of baby Samuel, Hannah remembered to thank God! In the Bible we can read the little prayer, "My heart rejoices in the Lord." Let's follow Saint Hannah's example!

**We celebrate Saint Hannah on Monday, December 9th (Dec. 22nd OC).**

# WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Today we remember Saint Hannah, but we also remember when God heard the prayer of Saints Joachim and Anna too. They wanted a child too, and God gave them baby Mary, the Holy Theotokos!

