

# Hannah's Heartbeat

touching hearts, instilling hope



## Valuable Lessons

**“**I am a mother and a wife who has little knowledge, little experience and little opportunity to learn anything about being a woman and about God. I thank God that your program enables me to learn more about him and how to be a good mother. I have so many problems in my life and I do not know what to do and how to overcome my problems, but your programs help me to rely on and trust in God.”—A listener from Indonesia

Ignorance. Lacking basic knowledge about diseases, healthy foods and hygiene prevents millions of mothers around the world from keeping their children alive, let alone raising them well. And ignorance of their Creator and his care keeps women in spiritual darkness. That is why for 13 years *Women of Hope* programs have offered practical advice and insight, sharing life-giving knowledge with hurting women worldwide and letting them know they are understood and loved – especially by God. Raise your own IQ about how best to pray for these women by listening online at [projecthannah.org/womenofhope](http://projecthannah.org/womenofhope) or via the iPhone app which can be downloaded free at [projecthannah.org/app](http://projecthannah.org/app) (transcripts can be read on screen or printed as well). Each letter

and story recounted in this issue testifies how God, through audio messages undergirded by prayer, is replacing ignorance with knowledge and dispelling lies with the truth. Thank you for partnering with Project Hannah as we speak his hope in over 55 languages to precious, suffering women.

*“We do not miss a single episode as the program is interesting and we get to learn a lot from it. In my village there is no [other] way a woman like me can learn about various issues relating to women.”*  
—A Hindi listener

*“...I am so thankful to God that there is such a program for women. Each time, when I listen to it [Women of Hope], I get something out of it for myself, something that encourages, comforts and gives valuable lessons for my soul. Although this program is more for women with families, we, the future mothers, can also learn a lot from it, and be prepared for our futures. We would like to become wise wives for our husbands. We value your programs and try to always listen to them.”*—A Ukrainian listener



# Immeasurable Worth

The women met each year because they were Christian leaders, the ones guiding others in their churches, communities and homes to choose the right paths. Women from another culture were invited to join them, and the subject of personal finances was on the agenda. As they began their presentation, the visitors handed out ledger sheets, instructing the women to write down their assets above the red line and their liabilities below it. Rather chaotically, the women began to question their visitors and each other, “What is an asset? What is a liability?” It was explained that an asset would be something of worth, like their dowries, and a liability would be money they may owe. The confusion continued; they had never actually seen their dowries and typically the men hold the money and handle the financial transactions.

Then one woman cried out, “I understand!” Above the line she wrote “men and boys” and below the line she wrote “women and girls.” With a breaking heart, one of the visitors ran to tell her of her immeasurable value to God and of her great importance to the success of her husband and her entire family. Listening to the pleas of her new friend, the woman carefully erased “women and girls” from below the line and re-wrote it above the line; the other women followed her lead.

It was a gathering of Arab Christian women. Even as redeemed daughters of the King, they did not know the truth about God’s

love for them as women and how valuable they are in his eyes. As is true for every people, their culture had lied to them. For some, lies of materialism crowd out spiritual truths. These Arab women had believed the lie told by many cultures: women are nothing but liabilities.

The heart of the woman who spoke God’s truth that day still breaks for Arab-speaking women. She longs for each one to hear of God’s love. Her name is Kay Parker and she has set a goal of finding 1,200 women who will give \$300 each so that Project Hannah can launch its ministry of compassion to Arab women in 22 countries. What is God calling you to do? Be challenged and encouraged by Kay’s blog, [projecthannah.org/arabicPH](http://projecthannah.org/arabicPH).

## listeners respond

*“The Women of Hope program is a blessing from God for my life and family. I learned how to deal with disabilities in children. I also learned how to deal with anger. Sometimes I easily get angry with my husband and children, so I prayed to God. When you presented the program, it was like God showed me where I have failed. Three months have passed, and God has helped me not to get angry so easily.”* –A listener in Angola

*“I heard your programs and found them so moving for my heart. You gave a beautiful message about a woman’s value, and I realized how precious I am in God’s eyes. You are in my prayers; especially during the night when I can’t sleep and I wake up and pray. May God bless you so you’ll be able to continue this wonderful work.”* –A listener in Romania

*“I am your faithful listener, and God is filling me with his light, joy and wisdom through your program. Thank you for Women of Hope. This program is for me. Very often at the end of the day, I just want to throw the day away like a school paper that has so many marks and start all over again. Yet my hope in God helps me not to lose heart and move forward. It is great that the program is done by women just like us who are familiar with the difficulties of life, yet know the secrets of moving through different situations.”* –A listener in Russia





# Prayer & PRAISE

- Praise the Lord for the opportunity for Project Hannah Africa coordinators to meet together with Marli in South Africa in July.
- Give praise and thanks for those who have already committed to partner through prayer and giving so that the *Women of Hope* Arabic program can be produced.
- Pray for God to raise up the new *Women of Hope* Arabic team. Ask that he will give them a surety of their calling as they do this sensitive work and wisdom as they prepare programs for often isolated women who know very little about God's grace and love for them.
- Pray for Project Hannah's ministries in South America, touching lives of women in communities, prisons, refuge centers and churches through the Guarani, Lengua, Low German, Nivacle, Portuguese, Quichua and Spanish *Women of Hope* programs, prayer ministry and mercy ministries.

## In God's Sight

Bheria went to church regularly. Since all the activities of the church were done by men, she came to understand that there was no place in God's house for women. Then a voice on the radio spoke straight to her heart, filling her with joy she had never imagined. Bheria listened carefully as the woman told the stories of women in the Bible. God had chosen Mary to be part of his redemptive plan, calling her to be the mother of the Lord Jesus. God answered Hannah's prayer by giving her a powerful prophet, Samuel, as a son. Esther was chosen to save the people of God. And, Scripture taught that God not only loved queens like Esther but also prostitutes like Rahab.

Bheria was amazed to learn how valuable women are in the sight of Jesus. After listening to the program, she started a women's fellowship in her church. Each woman was excited to be part of a fellowship at church, and they all started listening to the radio program, which taught Bheria the truth about how God values women. Bheria recently wrote: "Thank you, TWR-Nepal, for teaching us so many things through radio. Thank you for giving us the knowledge that we [women] have a place in the church."

Read a travel journal from visits to Nepali listeners, a Q&A with Shanti, who leads Project Hannah in Nepal, and more online at [projecthannah.org/nepal](http://projecthannah.org/nepal)



## Beautiful Words

Since receiving my solar powered radio, I have always listened to the *Women of Hope* radio program. The words are beautiful and well-chosen. I remember when the hosts were speaking about our value as women during the broadcast. It was the first time I heard something like that, and it really made me think. When I was little, my mother told me that it is as if women do not exist; they are doomed by God. They should say nothing, even when they are beaten by their husbands or fathers or brothers to the point of passing out. When I got married, I prayed, 'O, Lord don't give me a girl, because she will be doomed as well.' To think that the Son of God has given his life for us [women] who are abandoned by everyone is incredible. And because of his death, we have value! I never heard somebody talking like this about the Lord. I knew he was in heaven, but I thought he is not interested in what happens to people like us on earth. We need to learn more about this Lord. Thank you for thinking about us [Albanian women] and for preparing this program, which is teaching me to look at myself and my life differently.

*The stories continue online at [projecthannah.org/albania](http://projecthannah.org/albania)*





# More Valuable than Rubies

by Marli Spieker

Project Hannah Founder and Global Ministry Director



## MISSION STATEMENT

Project Hannah's purpose is:

- to raise awareness of and empathy for the plight of women worldwide.
- to pray for women who are being abused emotionally, physically or spiritually.
- to broadcast the gospel of Jesus Christ to women around the world, encouraging them to:
  - experience God's love, freedom, and power as they face life's daily challenges.
  - embrace their God-given destiny and glorious inheritance in Christ Jesus, whatever their cultural, social or economic situation.
  - pass on to their children a legacy of faith, wisdom, and godly character.

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"Is there any hope for a woman like me who is poor, uneducated, does not have skills to find a job, very weak, and not beautiful? I am almost in despair," an Indonesian listener asked. Can you hear her pain? No one ever told her that she is highly esteemed, loved by her Creator. Because she doesn't know her purpose or value, people misuse and abuse her, and she is not alone.

Nearly a quarter of the world's female population lives under the oppressive teaching that women are deficient in intelligence and spirituality. More than half of Indian women believe they deserve the abuse they receive simply for being females. Five hundred Chinese women kill themselves every day to escape a life of indignities. Something has gone terribly wrong! This picture has remained untouched for ages: historically, women have been on the receiving end of all sorts of abuse and degradation, considered to be property, unclean, inferior and even worth less than a cow! Because cultures are shaped by fallen people who have no understanding of women's value and purpose, they remain devalued and disposable.

Project Hannah communicates God's original plan for woman and her God-given destiny of worth and purpose through its radio programs *Women of Hope* in 58 languages. Undergirded by a powerful prayer movement in over 100 countries, we proclaim the truth of God's master plan for mankind, silencing Satan's lies about women. God never intended women to be abused or left alone to raise their children. He never intended men to rule, subjugate and abuse women, stripping off their dignity. Both were created to be his image bearers, intended for joint responsibilities and shared accountability. Both were to have dominion, subjugate the earth, reproduce and complete God's creation. Neither one could do this alone. Eve was created with a different purpose, though: to be a "suitable helper;" not to complete Adam, but to help him fulfill God's master plan. We must pay attention to this detail. With different roles they were to share equally in obedience, blessing, ruling, subduing, reproducing, and fellowshiping with God. Their rebellion against God prevented their following his design, and the catastrophic results have been unending brokenness and suffering. Women –the crown of creation –became what Isaiah calls precious "treasures of darkness – riches stored in secret places" (Isaiah 45:3).

Project Hannah teams work tirelessly as they seek these "precious treasures," taking women out of darkness into God's light. In his light they sparkle like rubies and precious gold. Seeing themselves as highly esteemed, treasured daughters and God's precious jewels changes their self-awareness forever! It is fascinating to see the transformation. They become "Proverbs 31 women" – healed, restored and saved! As Christians, we must seek and restore these treasures of darkness, still hidden behind Satan's lies about their worth, divine purpose and God's great love for them. Will you join Project Hannah in its "treasure hunt" today, seeking hidden treasures just waiting to be found?