

LOVE AND LISTEN TO YOUR MOTHER!



**(SLIDE #1) LOVE AND LISTEN TO
YOUR MOTHER!**

Introduction:

- A. **(Slide #2)** “Happy Mother’s Day” To All Of Our Mothers!

- B. And “Happy Mother’s Day” To All Of You Who Have Come To Celebrate This Precious American Holiday By Honoring The Almighty God Of Heaven Who Designed The Home And Mothers, Jesus Who Created The Home And Mothers, And The Holy Spirit Who Informed Us About Heaven’s Plans And Work!

- C. Take Time To Celebrate Your Mother!
 1. If she is alive, make sure you express your love and appreciation. Do not just say it out of habit; truly express heart-felt appreciation!

 2. If she has died, live to honor her life and memory!
 - a. This is the first year for several of us to come to this beautiful holiday and not be able to buy our mothers a card, a flower, a meal, and to talk with them about how precious they are to us.
 - b. If you mother has died, I hope you can approach this day with appreciation; I trust you do not let your loss become an emotional block that keeps you loving life, others in your family, and the Lord.

I. (Slide #3) Mary’s Sacrifices To Become A Mother!

- A. She Delayed Her Wedding To Joseph To Submit To Heaven’s Will!
 1. Often you think about how Joseph felt when the angel explained her pregnancy. Mt. 1:18-25

 2. **(Slide #4)** Imagine how she felt when the angel Gabriel told her that she would give birth to the Christ child!
 - a. Lk. 1:26-33
 1. This was when Elisabeth was 6 months pregnant with John the Baptizer!
 2. 28 “Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!”
 3. Imagine her uncertainty and fear!

4. Gabriel's message: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Lk. 1:30-33
 - b. Her range of emotions -- fear, uncertainty, curiosity, and incredible amazement!
 3. This of course would delay her wedding; however, she was so willing to obey God! [Imagine a couple delaying their wedding next Saturday for a year or two to obey God!]
- B. (Slide #5) She Endured Pregnancy And Humiliation To Bring The Messiah Into The World.**
1. So, she was pregnant for nine months with all that pregnancy entails.
 2. Imagine riding on a donkey from Nazareth to Bethlehem!
 - a. This was about 90 miles.
 - b. It could have taken from 4 - 7 days!
 - c. And today doctors tell pregnant women that they cannot travel for two or three weeks before delivery!!
 3. And the humiliation -- an unmarried woman, a betrothed woman pregnant!!!
- C. For All Of Us Today -- Think Of The Sacrifices That Your Mother Endured That We Might Be Alive In This World!**
1. Conception
 2. Pregnancy
 3. Childbirth
 4. Any husband who has watched his wife deliver a baby is stricken with awe!
 - a. He loves his wife like never before!
 - b. Prince Harry of England said about Meghan and his new son: "I'm very excited to announce that Meghan and myself had a baby boy earlier this morning, a very healthy boy. Mother and baby are doing incredibly well. It's been the most amazing experience I could ever have possibly imagined. How any woman does what they do is beyond comprehension, but we're both absolutely thrilled and so grateful for all the love and support from everybody out there. It's been amazing, so I just wanted to share this with everybody."

- c. I was SO BLESSED to be with Vicky when David and Amy were born!
What an incredible privilege!
- 5. She thrilled to conceive you; she thrilled to deliver you; she thrills to raise you, and she, like Moses' mother, Jochebed Ex. 2:1-10, was determined to protect you!
- 6. Thank God for your mother, for all the sacrifices that you know about and for all those about which you have NO idea!

II. (Slide #6) Mary's Life Made Her A Great Mother!

A. Her Godly Life.

- 1. She was a virgin! Lk. 1:27
- 2. She feared God and obeyed Him!
- 3. She was a young woman SO GODLY that she was the God-chosen woman to be the Mother of the Messiah!

B. Her Submission To The Will Of God.

- 1. She was willing to accept God's will for your life.
 - a. The angel's explanation: Lk. 1:35-37 "And the angel answered and said to her, '*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.* ³⁶Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷For with God nothing will be impossible.'"
 - b. Lk. 1:38 Mary's response to the angel's message: "Then Mary said, 'Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.' And the angel departed from her."
- 2. Her JOY in His Will.
 - a. After meeting with Elizabeth who praised her for her life and for the baby she carried, Mary's heart overflowed with glory to God!
 - b. God is worthy to be praised and worshiped. Lk. 1:46-56
- 3. (►) Her delight in His birth! Lk. 2:1-7
- 4. Her heart for her son!
 - a. She nursed and cared for Him!
 - b. Ps. 131:2 "Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child *is* my soul within me.

5. Her AWE at the succeeding events!
 - a. **(Slide #7)** His birth was revealed to the shepherds who were in the fields tending their flocks. Lk. 2:8-17
 1. Mary was in awe when the shepherds came to worship the newborn Christ!
 2. Lk. 2:18 “And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”
 3. The magnitude of this still overwhelmed her!
 - b. **(Slide #8)** The wise men from the East came to worship Him! Mt. 2:1,2
 1. His birth had been revealed to them; they came searching for Him; He may have been two years old at this time!
 2. A star led them to His house! Mt. 2:10 “When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.”
 3. They worshiped Him and gave Him gifts! Mt. 2:11 “And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”
 - c. **(Slide #9)** When He remained in Jerusalem and was astounding the Jewish religious leaders! Lk. 2:40-52
 - d. Imagine her amazement at these events!
 - e. And it seems she still struggled with this even as the years went by. Lk. 2:19 “But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart.”

C. She Lived A Godly Life BEFORE She Bore The Christ Child; She Was Godly As A Mother; She Was Godly AFTER Her Son Died! Ac. 1:14

D. If Your Mother Was/Is A Godly Woman, Thank God For Her! Try To Understand How Her Godliness Has Impacted Her Life, Your Family, And Your Life!!

III. (Slide #10) Mary’s Wisdom!

- A. She Loved God And His Will -- She Sought TRUE Wisdom!
 1. Pr. 1:7 “The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge,”
 2. Ps. 111:10 “The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*. His praise endures forever.”
 3. Here was a young Jewish woman who knew the significance of God to her nation Israel, who knew of a prophesied Messiah, and who gloried that He was coming!

4. Her mindset was: “Whatever God’s Will Is, I Accept.”
- B. **(Slide #11)** “Whatever He Says, Do It!”
1. She knew who her Son was; yet, grasping it all was not always easy.
 2. He had performed no miracles yet, but when the hosts ran out of wine at the wedding feast in Cana, Jn. 2:1-10, she told Him. Then she told the hosts: “Whatever He says to you, do *it*.” Jn. 2:5
 3. Although she did not know what He would do, she had confidence in Him!
- C. She Must Have Agonized When Her Other Sons Did Not Believe In Jesus, Jn. 7:3-5! However, She Kept The Family Rooted In Faith In God; Ultimately The Other Boys Became Believers Too!
- D. After His Death, She And His Brothers Are Closely Associated The Apostles And With Other Christians!
1. Ac. 1:14 “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”
 2. You see Mary’s association and fellowship with the people of God when her heart was in agony!
 3. You see the family’s faith; you see their reliance upon their brethren; you see their comfort in bereavement by relying upon their faith and the fellowship with their brethren!
- E. Try To Understand The Wisdom That Your Mother Has Shown In Adopting God’s Truths, In Raising Her Children, In Managing The Home, And In Stretching Finances To Make Things Work Financially!

IV. (Slide #12) Mary’s Pain: She Was At The Cross; Jesus’ Love!

- A. Jn. 19:25-27 “Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, ‘Woman, behold your son!’” ²⁷Then He said to the disciple, ‘Behold your mother!’ And from that hour that disciple took her to his own *home*.”
- B. **(Slide #13)** What AN INHUMANE Sight For A Mother To Experience!!!!

- C. But Oh, How Jesus Loved Her, EVEN IN HIS AGONY!
 - 1. He loved her!
 - 2. He respected and honored her!
 - 3. He entrusted her future care to the Apostle John; during the next 3 days as He was in Paradise; then after His 40 days on Earth, when He ascended back to be with His Father in Heaven.

- D. Consider The Agonies That Your Mother Experienced -- Illnesses, Death, Disappointments, Or Heartaches. Love Her For Her Strength To Endure Such Painful Events!

V. (Slide #14) Love And Listen To YOUR Mother!

- A. (▶) See How She Blessed You!
 - 1. The amazing passage that describes the “Wise Woman” says this about her children: “Her children rise up and call her blessed;” Pr. 31:28
 - 2. I trust that you can see and deeply appreciate how your mother has been a blessing to your life.

- B. (▶) Honor Her!
 - 1. The command: Ex. 20:12 “Honor your father and your mother,”
 - 2. The blessing: Ex. 20:12 “that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.”
 - 3. The same command is in the New Testament with a little different promise: “*Honor your father and mother,*” which is the first commandment with promise: ³*that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.*” Eph. 6:2,3

- C. (▶) Appreciate Her Wisdom!
 - 1. Pr. 6:20-22 “My son, keep your father’s command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. ²¹Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck. ²²When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And *when* you awake, they will speak with you.”
 - 2. Pr. 23:22 “Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.”

- D. (▶) Obey Her!
 - 1. Col. 3:20 “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”
 - 2. Show your respect by obeying -- boys & girls, teens, young adults, adults!

- E. (▶) Bring Joy To Her Heart!
 - 1. Pr. 15:20 “A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish man despises his mother.”
 - 2. Pr. 23:25 “Let your father and your mother be glad, And let her who bore you rejoice.”

(Slide #15) Conclusion:

- A. Look At What A GOOD Mother Mary Was!

- B. Thank God For YOUR Mother!

- C. Glorify God For His Design And Jesus For Creating The Home!

- D. Examine The Faith Of Your Mother -- Why Does She Believe What She Believes? Has She Left The Religion Of Your Youth To Come To The Lord's Church? Why Did She Do That? Seek To Know And Understand! You May Be Amazed What You Learn!!