

Motherhood

Proverbs 31: 10-31

MOTHERS

Moving

Orphans

To

Happily

Expect

Reproduction of

Salvation

Let's talk about women in the life of Jesus!

The Leading Ladies in the life of Jesus:

Jesus overturned the picture of womanhood while walking on earth.

- Jesus taught the women in the group as well as the men...
- Jesus didn't limit the teaching illustrations to male pictures:

Luke 15: 8- He compared the joy over a soul that was found to a woman finding a lost coin.

Mathew 13: 33 He compared heaven to yeast that a woman mixes into a large amount of flour until it works all through the dough.

In Jesus' day women were mistreated and thought to be second-rate humans, but Jesus did not allow the thoughts of the day dictate his treatment of the women in His life. His attitudes and actions towards women were an extreme contrast to the thoughts of the day. While the Pharisees avoided women, Jesus associated with them and spoke openly to them.

- He touched the unclean woman with the flow of blood
- He taught the hungry female pupil in class in a room full of men
- He encouraged Martha to join in the classroom
- He befriended the sisters of Bethany
- He conversed with the thirsty Samaritan woman by the well.

- He revealed His true identity to this five-time divorced woman.
- He welcomed the sinful woman's worship.
- He seemed to welcome and celebrated Mary Magdalene to join His ministry team.
- He defended (publicly) Mary of Bethany's gesture when she anointed Him with perfume.
- He commended the Syrophenician mother's faith.
- He applauded the widow's offering.
- He appeared to Mary Magdalene first after the Resurrection.
- He commissioned Mary Magdalene to go and tell His disciples that He had risen and that He would meet them in Galilee like He had said.
- He taught in places where women would be able to be present, such as hillsides or by the sea shore, in marketplaces, and even in the areas of the temple where women could go.
- One of His longest recorded conversations was with a woman (at the well) and some of His best students and most committed followers were ladies.

In this day and time, Jesus was willing to risk His reputation to rescue these women... He was willing to go against the grain to reach into their lives to see them understand.

- He delivered women from diseases, and out of deep darkness and shame.

And He highlighted their importance to His mission. In Matthew 26: 13, when Mary poured the oil on His feet He said, "I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

In our current world of feminism, some have tried to condemn Christianity as suppressing women but no one has ever done more for women than Jesus. Jesus called them to service but Jesus did not call them to stop being women. He did not call them to be a man. He called them to be Godly women!

- Mary of Nazareth stepped up to accept her calling as His mother.
- Mary Magdalene signed up to be a part of the team in whatever role she could fill.
- The woman who was bleeding spoke up to tell the crowd what Jesus had done for her.
- The woman caught in adultery cleaned up and started anew.
- The empty/broken woman at the well was fixed and filled to become a great evangelist.
- The woman with the alabaster jar opened up her heart to worship Jesus without fear of ridicule.
- Mary and Martha both followed their callings in the life of Jesus. When He needed them, he could count on these two sisters.

- The Syrophenician mother was greatly blessed for boldly believing and refusing to be offended.
- The Widow gave all she had to be an example to all the world.

These leading ladies here in the life of Jesus shows us that in God's family, girls are important too. These women were encouraged by Jesus to come out of the shadows and become a true example of worship to all the women of the world that would follow them.

What does this mean?

Every little girl needs to grow up knowing that she is important to God. She is important to God as a woman.

The life of Jesus gave us a glimpse of the value that He placed on womanhood.

Acts 2: 16-18 *"This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy."*

Peter explained that what Jesus had been showing them all along is that God's grace, love and power are extended to all people, no matter the color or race, and no matter whether male or female.

But this does not tell us that men are to be women or that women are to be men. These are still roles that have been created by God. God has created male and female. God has given roles to be fulfilled that are by His design. Women have been given the role of being the MOTHER, not the Man.

These are roles that are assigned and when men try to do what women are assigned to do, someone suffers and when women try to do what men are assigned to do, someone suffers.

But I want to know if you as a lady would embrace the role of motherhood. No greater calling could be placed on a person than that of motherhood. Even God has Angels especially assigned to children.

Matthew 18: 10 *"Take heed that you despise not the little ones; for I say unto you that their angels do always behold the face of my father in heaven."*

And there are no greater honoring words that are in Proverbs 31 as the writer describes the worth of a virtuous woman and who could tell us what she could possibly be worth.

Virtuous – 2428 – derived from words in which denotes strength, might, valor – an Army term. "A wealth of resources"

That is the word used in 1st Kings 10: 2 "And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train (virtuous) with camels, that bare spices and very much gold and precious stones..."

Qualities of the Virtuous woman:

Woman/ Married/ Mother and she was happy about all three!

1. Trusted by her husband (vs 11-12)
2. Hands busy working (vs 13, 15)
3. Servant to servants (vs 15)
4. Ambitious (vs 16) buying and selling
5. Self-Confident (vs 18)
6. Keeps herself well fit (vs 17)
7. Kind to the poor (vs 20)
8. Conscious about looking her best (vs 22)
9. Conscious about the power of her words (vs 26)
10. She is focused on the Real Prize (vs 27) Her household!

Results?

Her children proclaimed her Blessed – 833 – Heaven-sent/God's Anointed

Her Husband Praised her – Praised – 1984 – she shines

Consider of the Parable of the sower in Matthew 13: 18-23

- * Seeds of the Kingdom are sown by God through someone!
- * Some fell on the wayside
- * Some fell in stony places
- * Some fell among thorns
- * Some fell in Good ground! **Producing** fruit, some thirty, some sixty and some one hundred fold.

Who creates the good ground? Who???

The Mothers!

Mothers are *the* **M**overs of **O**rphans to **H**appily **E**xpect **R**edemption, and **R**eproduction of **S**alvation of this planet!