

Mother's Day

Matt 1:1-6; 16

1. Intro

1. What is a Mother?

1. Somewhere between the youthful energy of a teenager and the golden years of a woman's life, there lives a marvelous and loving person known as "Mother."
2. A mother is a curious mixture of patience, kindness, understanding, discipline, industriousness, purity and love.
3. A mother can be at one and the same time, both "lovelorn counselor" to a heartsick daughter, and "head soccer coach" to an athletic son.
4. A mother can sew the tiniest stitch in the material for that dainty prom dress and she is equally experienced in threading through the heaviest traffic with a station wagon or van.
5. A mother is the only creature on earth who can cry when she's happy, laugh when she's heartbroken, and work when she's feeling ill.
6. A mother is "old fashioned" to her teenager; just "Mom" to her third-grader; and simple "Mama" to little two-year old sister.
7. But there is hardly a thrill in life that can compete to pointing to that wonderful woman and be able to say to all the world, "That's my mother!"

2. An Odd Text For Mother's Day?

2. What We Can Learn From These Women

1. Mother #1: Tamar -- I Will Endeavor to Always Trust God With My Future (Don't take my future into my own hands. (Gen 38)
 1. This is a story of deception, incest and harlotry.
 2. We can try to do what we want with our lives and try to justify it by thinking God is in with us.
 3. Application: In what way might you have launched out on your own private attempt to live life?
 1. Psalm: 32:8
2. Mother #2: Rahab -- God's Redemption is Limitless (In spite of where I've come from, the Lord can restore me. (Josh 2)
 1. Rahab was born outside any chance of redemption; life circumstances led her to life compromises. She lived in Jericho, among a people who were going to experience judgment.
 2. She was a gentile, and a prostitute and lived in a city whose walls were about to fall down and her house is along the wall (15)!
 3. Rahab's life illustrates the NT text in Ephesians 2:11-13
 1. Many people today have Jesus on the throne of their lives, yet they have many regrets about their past.
 2. Because of past history many feel that God cannot change your future
 4. Application: How far do you feel your circumstances or status in life has left you from God?
 1. Have you been overrun by personal sin that is too difficult to get beyond?
 2. For Rahab and for you and for me:
 1. No matter how far from God you strayed, you can be redeemed, and your redemption could affect your whole household

3. Mother #3: Ruth -- I Purpose to Commit My Whole Life To God (And turn my back on my old life) (Ruth 1:16-17)
 1. Ruth was poor, her husband, a Jew, had died and left her without a connection to an inheritance.
 1. As a gentile she was outside of any possibility of relationship with God.
 2. But she had a "Commitment to God" which brought her into a covenant relationship with her mother-in-law, and ultimately remarried to a man in her family and together they became the grandparents of King David.
 3. Application: There comes a time when you have to say "Goodbye" to the old life and pursue the new life in Christ.
4. Mother #4: Bathsheba -- Always Use My Authority to Influence People For God (Never use people to get what I want. II Sam 11)
 1. After King David had Uriah killed so he could take Bathsheba as his wife, the Bible says: "BUT the thing David had done displeased the LORD."
 2. It does no good to try to hide your sin from God.
 1. The child of that union died.
 2. David's repentance came only after he had been confronted by a prophet to whom the Lord revealed the truth of the matter.
 3. Application
 1. If you sin--be quick to repent, don't cover over your sin.
 2. Don't use people for your own gain.
 1. Commit to God that you will use your influence in people's lives for the glory of God.
5. Mother #5 Mary: I Am Willing To Serve However God Desires (Learn to never say "no" to God)
 1. 3 key statements of Mary are recorded in the Scripture:
 1. Luke 1:38; Luke 1:46-55; John 2:5
 2. Each of these statements are laced with the attitude of availability to serve God.
 3. Application: You can say "no " to the Lord by just withholding your "Yes."

3. Conclusion

1. There is not perfection in the Genealogy of Christ
 1. Probably all were gentiles
 2. But in it is the gospel message
 1. Tamar-A sinner
 - Rahab-A sinner with faith
 - Ruth- A sinner with faith receives grace
 - Bath sheba-A sinner with faith who sins is still part of the family.
2. God uses people in a variety of different ways.
3. Mothers have an opportunity not only to serve God, but to set examples for the next generation.