

**A Mother's Ultimate Purpose. (Exodus 2:1–10; Numbers 26:59;
Hebrews 11:23)**

Being a mother or a father isn't for the faint of heart. It requires some tough decisions—decisions that are risky and heart-wrenching, decisions that require faith. Ultimately mothers and fathers have one ultimate purpose.

Jochebed: A finely drawn portrait of a mother with FAITH.

1. Jochebed had a COURAGEOUS faith.

--- A mother's ultimate purpose is to instill in her child a LOVE FOR GOD.

--- In a dangerous world a mother does what she needs to do to SAVE her child.

--- Real faith is active and willing to take RISKS.

2. Jochebed had a SENSIBLE faith.

3. Jochebed's courageous, sensible faith was REWARDED.

--- Motherly INSTINCTS play a prominent role in loving, protecting and saving a child.

--- There are many things mothers can do for their children, but ultimately they have to leave it IN GOD'S HANDS.

Walking Faithfully and Confidently With God (Hebrews 3:1-6).

Very Simple Truths

- You CAN walk faithfully and confidently with God--- morning to night---all day---every day.
- You cannot be faithful to God if allow ANY unbelief take root in your heart.

Heb 4:1-2. Heb 3:14.

- Faithfulness is simply BELIEVING God will keep His Word.

How to walk confidently and faithfully with God.....

- Don't LISTEN to the lies of the devil. *John 8:42-44*

Rev 12:9-10.

- Lie No. 1: "You're not making any SPIRITUAL progress."
- Lie No. 2: "God is not with you- you've GRIEVED Him away."

- EXAMINE yourself - see if you have been guilty of sin and/or unbelief. *Heb 3:12. Mark 16:11-14. Mark 4:9-11*

- Be fully persuaded that your High Priest Is touched by all your hurts - and that you have full access to His throne!

Heb 4:13-16.

- You don't have EXPLAIN anything to Him.
- You can just kneel before Him and PRAY boldly:

"Jesus, You know what I'm going through. I can't put it into words. But You have been here, too - so please help me!"

Wednesday Evening, July 15, 2009

Spiritual Checkup: Test Your Relationship with God
(2 Cor 13:5)

How to Do A Spiritual Checkup

- **EXAMINE** Yourself.
 - **Do I LOVE God?** Yes if:
 - I am **OBEDIENT** to the Word.
 - I love the **CHURCH**.
 - **Do I seek the LEADERSHIP** of the Holy Spirit?
 - **Do I seek REAL** repentance?
 - **Am I GROWING** in my relationship with the Lord?
- **TEST** Your Life.
- **DO SOMETHING** with the Test Results.

Why Test Your Spiritual Relationship with God?

- Your **STANDING** before God most important issue of your life.
- If wrong about your salvation, you can never make it **RIGHT**.
- Many others have been **MISTAKEN**.
- One day God will **EXAMINE** you.
- Assurance of salvation means you can grow in **CONFIDENCE**.

If you are without Christ, have opportunity to ASK Him for salvation.

Wednesday July 22, 2009

“Keep On, Keeping On” Don’t Give Up

**“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you”
(Matthew 7:7)**

I. “Ask and it shall be given you” (v7);

a. **“Every one that ask receives: (v.8)**

II. “Seek and ye shall find” (v7);

b. **“He that seeks finds” (v.8)**

III. “Knock and it shall be opened unto you” (v.7);

c. **“To him that knocks it shall be opened” (v.8)**

IV. We serve a good God, which is Holy. He has shown us through His word and fulfilled prophecy that He knows how to give good gifts. (Matthew 7:11)

V. Matthew 7: 12

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets”.

Wednesday Evening, July 29, 2009
Trusting God?
(Proverbs 3:5-6).

God's Tremendous Promises.

- Make our paths straight when we give Him our **TRUST**.
- When our conscience is clear that we have given Him our **ALL**.

Biblical Truths.

- If you want get it together, or if you've gotten it together and you want to keep it together, there's only 1 way—
 - Learn to put your trust in God and reject your own **WISDOM**.
- The only way you can make sure **our lives work the way they are supposed** to work is if trust God at every **LEVEL**.

Specific Times When It's Most Crucial to Trust God . . .

- When things happen that you don't **UNDERSTAND**.
- When you are faced with a **DECISION**.
- When the **FUTURE** seems uncertain
 - Trusting God means that you don't have to try to make **SENSE** of all the areas of your life.

The Meaning of Trusting in God.

- **STEPPING** out in faith.
- It is a **LEAP** of faith but NOT a **BLIND** leap.

Wednesday Evening, August 12, 2009
Hurricane Proofing The House
(Matthew 7:24-27)

4 things to consider when choosing whether or not to invest in
“Hurricane Proofing Your House”

Life's Storms & Trials Play No Favorites.

- Storms reveal:
 - The **CHOICE** of Foundations.
 - The **QUALITY** with which lives are built.
 - That prior to **Judgment Day**, wrongly built structures are in danger of **FALLING**.

Wise Builders Build Their House on the Rock.

- A solid foundation built on the Rock combines **REAL**:
 - **COMMITMENT** to Jesus Christ WITH
 - **OBEDIENCE** to Jesus Christ.

Foolish Builders Build Their House on Sand.

- Allowing **CHARACTER** flaws to go untreated is dangerous.
 - Shortcuts lead to suffering and death.
 - Shortcuts can tenaciously reappear in subsequent generations.

The Authority of Jesus.

To stand or to fall on the Authority of Jesus is A **CHOICE**.

There is no difference between a believer who:

- Hears the Gospel and **DOESN'T** obey & someone who hates the Gospel & **WON'T** obey.
- Refuses to **READ** the Bible & a Satanist who **BURNS** the Bible.
- Refuses to have a prayer life & a pagan who doesn't know how to **PRAY**?
- Who does not **DO** Jesus' Will and Judas' betrayal of Jesus!

Wednesday Evening, August 19, 2009

Letting the Wilderness Shape You

(Ex 17:1-7)

Spiritual Downturns.....

- We ALL have spiritual downturns of life.
- God is PRESENT in every spiritual downturn.
- We rarely experience Him in a spiritual downturn b/c we don't KNOW HOW.

Finding God in the midst of Spiritual Downturns.....

- Consider the emptiness of ALTERNATIVES.
- Look for his FINGERPRINTS in our circumstances.
- Allow God to SHAPE you by your experiences.

God's Purpose for your Wasteland Experiences.....

- God LEADS US into the wilderness.
 - To work on your CHARACTER.
 - To simply bring you new opportunities to be OBEDIENT.
 - To grind down the ROUGH SPOTS to shape your SOUL to look its very best.
- God is not in a RUSH.
 - God is in NO HURRY to get you through "character school."
God wants to make sure when we get to the right place, we are RIGHT people.

Your Reaction During the Wilderness Experience?

- You can GRUMBLE.
- You can TURN TO GOD.
- You can choose LUXURY or the LORD.

Wednesday Evening, August 26, 2009

When You've Been Good and Life Goes Bad

(Rev 2:8-10)

- SOURCES OF TROUBLE in our lives.
 - Due to FALLEN world.
 - Due SELF-INFLICTED wounds.
 - When LIFE has been bad.
- TRUTHS ABOUT TROUBLE.
 - Jesus knows your TROUBLE.
 - Jesus knows your POVERTY.
 - Early Christians IMPOVERISHED because of their faith.
 - If you have Jesus, you are RICH.
 - Jesus knows your ENEMIES.
 - Jesus promises He will never LEAVE US.
 - God will not let anything happen to us that does not turn to His ultimate GLORY.
- Jesus commands us to be FAITHFUL.

Wednesday Evening, September 9, 2009

Our Mountain Top Experiences.

(Gen 9:8-9)

When God saved and called you.....:

- God didn't give you all of His PLANS for your life.
 - No, you had to TRUST Him.
- God didn't tell you most of your work would be in the VALLEY.
- God promised to provide you the POWER to do whatever He asks you to do.

Mountain Top Experiences.....

- Spiritual experiences are not PLANNED.
- Are one of God's ways of ENERGIZING us.

Embracing Mountain Top Experiences.....

- AFFIRM God's nearness in your heart.
 - By MEMORIZING Scripture you can instantly remind self of God's presence in any & every situation.
 - Build your confidence upon God's ASSURANCE to you.
Hebrews 13:5-6.
 - Do not be OBESSESSED with apprehension.
 - Be full of COURAGE. *Phil 4:5-6*
 - Visualize God's PRESENCE in your mind.
 - Draw On the GRACE of God---NOW! *2Cor 6:1-2.*
 - Grace is overflowing FAVOR of God.
 - Grace you had yesterday will NOT be sufficient for today.
- Access God's nearness through prayer.

Wednesday Evening, September 16, 2009

You Are In God's Hands

(I Peter 5:5-11.)

God's Promise to Every Believer.....

- I (God) will see you through EVERY storm of life.

The Reality of Being in God's Hands.

- God will HONOR you when.....
 - You are HUMBLE.
 - Remember where POWER comes from.
 - Willing to do good without getting CREDIT for it.
 - Able to REJOICE in someone else's success.
- God will TAKE CARE of you.
 - He knows what you NEED, when you NEED it.
- God will RESTORE you.
 - A most difficult aspect of suffering is the GROUND YOU LOSE in process.
 - The longer we look at what we have lost, stronger the grip of REGRET on our life.
 - God promise to YOU is that He will:
 - RESTORE you.
 - STRENGTHEN you.
 - Place you on a FIRM foundation.
 - Make you STEADFAST.

Wednesday Evening, September 23, 2009
"Keep the Fire Burning!"
Romans 12:11

God's Expectations of A Follower.....

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are to

- Be ZEALOUS believers.
- Act LOVINGLY out of firm conviction,
- Have a DEEP commitment.

Condition of your Spiritual Life?

- Have you NEGLECTED important spiritual disciplines in your life?

Bible Study.
Prayer.
Confession.
Fellowship.
Service.
Worship.
Giving.

- Is your Faith becoming UNNOTICEABLE others?
Key Components of a sound Spiritual Life.....
 - Act with ZEAL.
 - Be PASSIONATE in Spirit.
 - SERVE the Lord.

ALLOW GOD TO WORK THROUGH YOU

- Stay CONNECTED with Him.
- Do not allow ANYTHING to clog up the passageways of your life.

Wednesday Evening, September 30, 2009
"The Storm Before the Calm"
Matthew 8:23-28

5 things to give you an attitude to expect life-changing miracles:

Storms RAGE Even When JESUS IS IN Your Boat.

- Jesus led disciples into this storm teach them TRUST Him.
1 Peter 4:12.
- Bible isn't feel-good book about people who lived PERFECT lives.
- Bible is a volume tracing lives 100s people who struggled with pain, suffering, yet maintained FAITH in God.

Storms CREATE FEARS That Cause MORE DAMAGE Than the Storm. . . Isaiah 41:10.

Storms NEVER Make JESUS PANIC.

- The key to having peace in the midst of the storm is found in TRUSTING in Jesus.
- Storms FORCE US to CRY OUT to God for Help.*
- God allows storms to teach us that He is POWERFUL enough to calm them. *Ro 10:13. Psalm 34:17-18.*

Storms Still SURRENDER to the POWER of JESUS. . . .

- The point miracle was suddenness of the CALM.
- When Jesus is in your boat you ARE going to make it!

Wednesday Evening, October 7, 2009

Where on Your List of Priorities is God? (Exodus 20:1-3)

Relevancy of the Ten Commandments.

- Arguments against:
 - OUTDATED.
 - DOES NOT APPLY to Christians.
- Importance of:
 - Making God #1 is to know the blessing of God's peace, love, provision, and His life.
 - Many claim to *believe in God and the, Bible* but their lives and actions CONTRADICT their claim.
 - Many are hungering for abundant life, but offered everything but the BREAD OF LIFE.

We Were Created to Worship. . . .

- Human beings were created by God with the capacity for CHOICE and worship.
 - God offered proof of His existence: YOUR LIFE.

• **Our Worship must be REAL.**

Personal Application

- Evaluate your spiritual life HONESTLY.
- Be willing to make whatever changes to your LIFESTYLE needed to put the Lord first.
- Pour out your HEART to God.
- COUNT THE COST of putting God first.

Wednesday October 14, 2009

**Acceptable Sacrifices of A Faithful Christian
Romans 12:1;Hebrews 13:15-16**

2 Important Biblical Terms. . . .

- **STEWARDSHIP:** “Utilizing and managing **ALL** resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His Creation.”
- **SACRIFICE:** "Act of offering to God something **PRECIOUS.**"

“3 Vital Sacrifices as A Faithful Christian”. . . .

- **YOU**
 - A **LIVING** Sacrifice.
 - **Sold out and on fire for God.**
 - **Only two possibilities: LIVING Sacrifice or DEAD Sacrifice.**
- **PRAISE**
 - "Fruit of our lips"—offering our **VOICES** in **praise** to God.
- **POSSESSIONS**
 - **GIVING** is vital to spiritual growth.

Wednesday October 21, 2009

**“I Can Conquer That Mountain!”
Matthew 17:20; Joshua 14: 8-12; 14**

Mountain Moving Qualities God Honors.....

- **OBEDIENCE.**
- **FAITHFULNESS.**
- Those who do not **QUIT.**

Mountain Conquering Obstacles.....

- **FRIENDS.**
 - Some friends stand in way of our **SPIRITUAL** progress.
 - True friends always **ENCOURAGE** us to do what is right.
- **RACIAL** Prejudice.
- **AGE.**
- The **ENEMY.**
 - Caleb expressed **HUMILITY** not doubt.
 - The key to service before God is **“WHOLEHEARTEDLY.”**

Wednesday October 28, 2009

Is Your Computer (mind) Infected with the Worry Worm?

Matthew 6:25-34

- With Jesus, I don't have to **FEAR** the future
 - Definition of worry: "To **TORMENT** oneself with disturbing thoughts.
 - WORRY sees the **PROBLEM**.

CONCERN: seeks a **SOLUTION**. *Luke 12:4*
- I have a loving Father who knows my needs and **CARES** for me
Luke 12:6-7
- When I focus on seeking God, I can't focus on **WORRY**
 - When your mind is infected with worry, it focuses on **FEAR**.

 - When your mind is energized by **FAITH** you focus on God.
Matthew 6:31-33

Sunday Morning December 20, 2009

The Incarnation: LORD of All. (Philippians 2:9-11)

Jesus Is Lord...

- He reigns in the **UTMOST** position.
 - From the humiliation of man to the **HONOR** of God.
 - The path to success before God is paved with **SELFLESSNESS** before man.

- He holds **UNENDING** power.
 - His dominion...
 - He has the power to **SAVE**.
 - He has the power to **RULE**.
 - Our decision...
 - Bow the knee today... **SALVATION**.
 - Bow the knee then... **CONDEMNATION**.

- He deserves **UNIVERSAL** praise.
 - From every **ANGEL**.
 - From every **PEOPLE**.
 - From every **LANGUAGE**.

- He fulfills the **ULTIMATE** purpose.
 - At Christmas, we look back to His **REVELATION** of the Father's glory.
 - At Christmas, we look forward to His **RETURN** with the Father's glory.

Our Prayer This Christmas...

Open our eyes that we may see
the magnitude of Your **GLORY**;
open our hearts that we may feel
the weight of Your **GRACE**;
and open our mouths that we may declare
the wonder of Your **GOSPEL**.