



A Mother's Treasure

Luke 2:41-52

Sermon given on May 8, 2016

Mother's Day Sunday

Calvary Chapel French Valley



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Opening Comments

- Happy Mother's Day
- Turn to **Luke 2**
- Kelly and I were blessed with three great children
- Our oldest was born May 3, 1985, and last Wednesday, May 4th, 2016, 31 years, one day later we spent our first night together as 'empty-nesters'
- Believe it or not, I have learned a couple of things over the last 31 years
- One of those things is how different Kelly is from me, including in her role as a mother
- Some kid would mess with one of the kids and she would go all 'momma-bear' – I would say, they have to learn how to handle themselves
- If they would fall down and hurt themselves, she would run up and hug them – I would ask, 'Are you bleeding? No, then stop crying!'
- One area that always made for interesting conversations was when Kelly tried to get me to understand what the kids were feeling
- It must have been very frustrating for her
- One of the things that makes mothers so amazing is their love for their children
- That is not to say that dads don't love their kids, I did
- There was just something about the way Kelly did it, that was so much more beautiful than when I did it
- Today is Mother's Day and so I thought it would be good to look into the life of a mother in the Bible
- And not just any mother, but Mary, the mother of Jesus
- Mary was the human instrument through whom the Savior of the whole world was born
- It was through her that God became flesh and dwelt among men

- When that baby was born, He had a destiny that was greater than any other human ever
- But to Mary, that helpless baby was hers to love and cherish
- Let's pray and then get into our text

Teaching

- **A Mother's Treasure**

- The gospel of Luke opens with some of the details of the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus
- An angel came and announced to Mary who this Child was to be **Luke 1:30-33**

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He 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. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

- Imagine getting word that you were going to have a child, and that child was going to be great
- Most mothers, and fathers, probably don't have a problem dreaming big for their children
- A good parent wants their children to be great – greater than themselves
- Life wasn't easy for this young mother
- Stories circulated about how she got pregnant before she was married
- And then when she was about to deliver the baby they had to travel 70 miles, probably on the back of a donkey, down to Bethlehem for a census
- After the baby was born they had to flee for their lives down to Egypt, so that Jesus wouldn't be killed by Herod
- After a couple of years, they go back to Nazareth
- We don't know anything about early Jesus' life except for one event when He was twelve
- **Luke 2:41-42**
- The Passover was a feast to remember and celebrate when God delivered them out of Egypt

- Remembered that God told them to take the blood of a lamb and put it over the door of their homes so that the angel of death would pass over them as the final plague of Egypt fell – the death of the firstborn sons
- All that pictured the death of God’s firstborn Son, Jesus whose blood washes away our sins and delivers us from the penalty of spiritual death
- Every Jewish male that able would come to Jerusalem, and if he was able, he would bring his family with him
- People would often travel in large family or community groups, which would make the trip safer
- After the Day of Passover, the feast of Unleavened bread would follow for seven days
- Then everyone would pack up and go home
- **Luke 2:43-44**
- Before you call CPS on Joseph and Mary, need to put yourself in their place
- We know that Joseph and Mary had other children, so they were busy dealing with them
- And we have to imagine what kind of child Jesus was
- I imagine Him as very able to take care of Himself, didn’t give His parents any trouble
- **Luke 2:45-47**
- It took them three days to find Jesus – imagine what might be going through Mary’s mind – imagine how frantic she might be
- Imagine the discussions she and Joseph had - why weren’t you watching Him – I thought He was with you
- And then I wonder about what He was doing – how was He eating – where was He sleeping
- They find Jesus in the temple – having a conversation with the teachers
- And twelve year old Jesus has their full attention
- **Luke 2:48-50**
- What are you freaking out about? This is where I am supposed to be?

- There is also a radical declaration here
 - Jesus at the age of twelve understood that He was the Son of God
 - That He had a special mission to this world
 - His parents didn't fully understand this
 - It wasn't until after the cross, resurrection, and ascension that Jesus' mission began to become clear to people
 - **Luke 2:51-52**
 - For 31 years I have watched Kelly be a mother to our children
 - Every time I read this text I wonder what it would have been like to raise Jesus – what kind of a kid, teenager, and young man was He
 - Mary had heard the angel's words, she had witnessed God's sovereign hand guiding them and protecting the Child
 - And now this event
 - Last part of verse 51 in the NASB = 'His mother treasured all these things in her heart.'
 - One of the traits that always amazes me about mothers is their ability to treasure their children in their hearts
 - They see and believe things about their children that no one else can see
 - They have hope for their children, even when it seems that there is no hope
 - They love, even when they are not loved in return
 - Mothers and fathers are not the same
 - Men and women were created differently **Genesis 1:26-27**
- Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.**
- Certain attributes of God are revealed in women, that are not always obvious in men
 - Tenderness, gentleness, compassion, sacrificial love
 - It is not to say that men don't have these things, they just aren't as obvious in most men
 - And some of the most beautiful of God's attributes are seen in women who have children

- Mary treasured the things about Jesus in her heart
- That is a reflection of God – of how He feels about each of His children
- Just as Mary treasured Jesus, God, our heavenly Father treasures each of us who is one of his children
- And unlike us humans God shows no partiality with His children
- Every year, we take a day to say thank you to mothers
- But, just how do we say thank you for all they have done
- A card, flowers, and candy is nice – but should there be more
- Maybe a spa day, or a cruise to the Bahamas
- All of that might be nice, but I think most mothers just want to know you love them, and want you to be with them
- They want to see you becoming the treasure they know you are in their heart
- Now I know not everyone had a mother like my children did
- Some women through circumstances of life were not able to be the mothers they could have been
- Some might not have been able to override their selfish desires
- Give her the gift of forgiveness
- Mothers are a precious gift – they are a treasure
- Whatever kind of mother she was, she was your mother
- God used her to bring you into this world
- Glorify God by forgiving her for any mistakes she may have made
- Bless her by showing her the love that God has shown you
- Treat her like a treasure
- And you be the treasure she believes you are
- I am so thankful for my mother who treasured me, and for Kelly for treasuring my children, and now Rebecca and Rachael treasuring my grandchildren
- Mothers and a true blessing and gift from God
- Happy Mother's Day ladies – I love you
- **Prayer**