

Jesus and His mother

A mother's love for her child is like nothing else in the world. It knows no law, no pity. It dares all things and crushes down remorselessly all that stands in its path. Agatha Christie

Unfortunately a son's love for his mother isn't as deep and strong, although sons don't intend it to be so.

What then can we learn from the relationship between Jesus and His mother, Mary?

Luke 2: 1 – 52

1) Mary, Jesus' mother

- Mary treasured important moments in Jesus' life
 - Luke 2: 16 – 19 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.
 - Luke 2: 48 – 51 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."
"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.
 - Mothers always treasure important moments in their children's lives. Those moments might seem insignificant to other people but to mothers they're precious and important.
- Mary believed in Jesus' ability to accomplish things
 - John 2: 1 – 5 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."
"Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."
His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
 - Mothers believe in their children to help put them in positions that enable them to succeed in life. Sometimes whether their children want it or not.
- Mary was available in Jesus' time of need.
 - John 19: 25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
 - When most others had deserted Jesus after his arrest, trial and crucifixion Mary was there at the cross
 - A mother will always put herself in a position where she can protect and support her children even at her own expense.

2) Jesus, Mary's son

- He was obedient to her
 - Luke 2: 49 – 51 Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.
 - He adhered to her request to do something about the wine that had run out.

- He upheld the fifth law of honouring your father and your mother.
- No doubt his mother had taught him to follow the law.
- He placed the doing of God's will as a priority over His mother
 - Matthew 12: 46 – 50 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."

He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."
 - This is what His point of view was when He was twelve in the temple
 - Jesus taught about leaving mother, father, etc. to do the will of God. He taught that a person should not put their hand to the plow and look back even to their family.
 - Thus in His relationship with His own mother and family He practiced what He preached in putting God first. He didn't set a standard for other people and live by a lower standard.
- He cared for His mother even in the midst of His suffering
 - John 19: 25 – 27 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.
 - When Jesus was in the middle of His worst suffering He cared for His mother. He made sure that she was going to be taken care of.
 - These days we can get so busy with life that we can side-line our mothers. Take Jesus' example and take care of them even when it's inconvenient to do so.

3) What we learn about relationships from Mary and Jesus

- God is the primary relationship before all other relationships
 - He is the foundation of all other relationships.
 - The reason that so many relationships fall apart is because they're built on the wrong foundations.
- Relationships need mutual commitment for them to work.
 - Jesus committed Himself to us and to us having a relationship with the father by dying on the cross for us. We need to commit ourselves to Him. He always keeps His side of the bargain.
 - This principle includes our relationships with other people. A one sided commitment never works
- Treasure one another don't use each other
 - Jesus and Mary treasured each other and didn't use each other
 - It's easy to have relationships with people for what we get out of them rather than what we put into them
 - A relationship needs both sides to give into it wholeheartedly for it to grow.