

# A Mother's Sacrificial Love

## Introduction

### Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1:10-28

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1. Each Lord's Day we gather together to remember the death of Jesus, the greatest sacrifice of all and learn how we can be better fathers, mothers and children.
2. Today is set aside as mother's day across our nation. It is a day for children to honor their mother, and to think about the sacrificial love that mother's have given to their children.
3. There are many lessons that we can learn from mothers ---- lessons that help us define love and sacrifice.

## Jochebed

(Numbers 26:59/Exodus 6:20 – Jochebed and Amram)

### Exodus 1:22-2:10

1. Don't you think she was troubled and concerned about the decree?
  - A. Would her baby be a boy? She endured this unknowing for nine months.
  - B. When the time came: No celebrations, baby showers, showing off the child.
  - C. The little boy is hidden until he could be hid no more. He was placed in a basket and set afloat. He was later found by the daughter of Pharaoh.
  - E. Jochebed was offered wages to nurse the baby.
    - 1) Consider the tears of Jochebed as she nursed her own son, unable to tell anyone, unable to plan for his future, knowing she could not keep him!
    - 2) A pagan named him Moses and called him son!
2. She was willing to trust in God. She showed faith and confidence in God.
  - A. Could she have known that this little boy, that she showed sacrificial love toward would lead a nation of God's people?

### **3. We must always trust in God's goodness.**

Jeremiah 29:11-13 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, **when you search for Me with all your heart.**

#### **A. Knowing God and His character then sacrifice is possible.**

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but **our sufficiency is from God,**

### **4. Are we willing like Jochebed to take a back seat?**

#### **A. She was not concerned about her rights but rather the rights of her child. Jesus said:**

Luke 9:23 ....If anyone desires to come after Me, **let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.**

#### **B. It is important to note that Jochebed never blamed God for her troubles, but rather made the best of the situation that was presented.**

#### **C. She was a woman who remained loyal to her God!**

## Hannah

### 1 Samuel 1:10-28

1. **Hannah was married, yet unable to conceive. She wept to have a child of her own.**
  - A. **She made a vow to God that if she were blessed with a child, she would dedicate him to His service.**
  - B. **Even as the days passed that she looked upon her child while nursing him, she knew the day would come that she would take him to Shiloh.**
    - 1) **Would you as a mother have second thoughts?**
  - C. **She kept her vow. She didn't leave him for the day, she left him for the rest of his life.**
    - 1) **She would visit him once a year (1 Sam 2:19), and was grateful for the visit.**
  - D. **She had such a love for her son and for the Lord.**
    - 1) **This was sacrifice - the one thing she wanted most, she gave back to God!**
    - 2) **This sacrifice brought joy to her life.**

Psalms 127:3 Behold, **children are a heritage from the LORD**, the fruit of the womb is a reward.

2. **Sometimes we think happiness is doing what I want to do, pleasing self, following our own desires.**
  - B. **Real happiness is found in the giving to others, the denial of self.**
  - C. **Are we dedicating our children to the Lord?**  
**Ephesians 6:4**
3. **Children, never take your mother for granted. She was there for you as a little baby, and will always sacrifice for you.**
  - A. **Mothers do deserve our praise because they watch over our souls.**

## Godly Mothers

1. **In the home, nothing can replace a godly mother.**

- A. **A mother who diligently trains her children**

Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And **do not forsake the law of your mother;**

- B. **A mother who does not forsake her God-given role as a teacher of her young.**

Proverbs 29:15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But **a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.**

- C. **A mother who is always a godly example for her children.**  
**2 Timothy 1:3-5**

2. **Every child should be so thankful for mothers who have showed their love and devotion and sacrificial love for their family!**

## Conclusion

### 1. Jesus said:

John 15:12-13 “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, **than to lay down one’s life for his friends.**”

### 2. Jesus became the greatest sacrifice for man. Through His death, we have opportunity of eternal life:

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

### 3. Won’t you let the story of Jesus move you today to obey His will?



## True Story:

About six o'clock on a Wednesday morning, James Lawson of Running Springs California, in the San Bernardino Mountains, left home to apply for a job. About an hour later, his 36-year-old wife, Patsy, left for her fifth-grade teaching job down the mountain in Riverside. She was accompanied by their two children, Susan, age five, and Gerald, age two. They were to be dropped off at the babysitter's.

Unfortunately they never got that far.

The alarm was spread that Patsy and her two little ones had not arrived at the babysitter's, nor at her school post. Eight and one half hours later, James Lawson found his wife and daughter dead in their wrecked car, upside down in a cold mountain stream. His two-year-old son was just barely alive in the cold 48-degree water.

As the father scrambled down the cliff to what he was sure were the cries of his dying wife, he found something else. She was dead. But she was locked in a position that was holding her little boy's head just above the water in the submerged car.

What had happened could be pieced together from the scene. The five-year-old daughter had evidently been killed in the accident. Patsy had attempted to get out, but the position of the car had her trapped. Little Gerald had survived the crash along with his mother. There was nothing else for Patsy to do but hold Gerald's head above the water in the little pocket of air that remained in the car.

For the long eight and one half hours, she had held that painful position until her body had almost frozen in the pose of self-giving love. Then she had finally succumbed to hypothermia and died.

Patsy Lawson, though dead, was still holding her baby up so he could breath. He survived the ordeal. She died that another might live. That's the essence of a mother's sacrificial love.

# Motherhood

The young mother set her foot on the path of life and asked, "Is the way long?" The guide answered, "Yes, and it is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy and she could not believe that anything could be better than these days. So she played with her children, and gathered flowers along the way. And the sun shone on them and life was good. And the young mother cried, "Nothing could be lovelier than this." Then came night and storm; and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold. But the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle. And the children said, "We are not afraid, Mother, for you are near; and no harm can come to us." And the mother said, "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage." And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary. But at last she said to the children, "A little patience and we will be there." So the children climbed and when they reached the top they said, "We could not have done this without you, Mother." And that night the mother looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardship. Yesterday I gave them courage; today I have given them strength." And on the next day came strange clouds, which darkened the earth - clouds of war and hate and evil. And the children groped and stumbled in the darkness. The mother said, "Look up; lift your eyes to the light!" And the children looked and saw above the clouds the everlasting light, and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God." And the days

became weeks and the weeks months, and the months years, and the mother grew old and she was little and bent. But the children were tall and strong and walked with courage. And when the way was hard, they lifted her over the rough places. At last they came to a hill and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and the golden gates flung wide. And the mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey, and now I know the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them." And the children said, "You will always walk with us Mother, even when you have gone through the gates!" They stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We cannot see our Mother now, but she is with us still. **A MOTHER LIKE OURS IS MORE THAN A MEMORY, SHE IS A LIVING PRESENCE.**

**Mothers, think about your children. And children, remember your mother.**