



## What the Bible says to Women Pt 2: The Life-Giver!

May 14, 2023

### **Text: Genesis 3:20**

We have used this quote from an unknown (but right) author for years:

*“Only women can be mothers. Have we forgotten this fundamental? Only a woman can carry in her body an eternal being which bears the very image of God. Only she is the recipient of the miracle of life. Only a woman can conceive and nurture this life using her own flesh and blood, and then deliver a living soul into the world. God has bestowed upon her alone a genuine miracle — the creation of life, and the fusing of an eternal soul with mortal flesh. This fact alone establishes the glory of motherhood.*

*This is one reason why the office of wife and mother is (such a high calling). This is the reason why nations that fear the Lord esteem and protect mothers. They glory in the distinctions between men and women, and attempt to build cultures in which motherhood is honored and protected.”*

Another unknown author said:

*“She has a more influential and powerful role than any political, military, religious or educational figure. Her words are never fully forgotten. If you were blessed with a good mother, you will enjoy the advantages for the rest of your days. If your mother neglected you and her responsibilities, unfortunately the impact is almost certainly still felt today. Whether it’s good or whether it’s evil, a mother’s impact is permanent. A child’s mother is arguably the most influential figure in their life, giving credence to the old adage: the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.”*

John Wesley said, *“I learned more about Christianity from my mother than from all the theologians in England.”*

### **God’s Holy Work in LifeGivers!**

*After an egg has been fertilized and implants into the uterine lining, a sac grows around it. This becomes the amniotic sac and will hold the amniotic fluid and cushion the embryo. The placenta also forms during this month. This will bring nutrition and support to the baby from the mother. The face and eyes begin to develop, and the heart begins to beat. By the end of the 4th week, the baby will slightly smaller than a grain of rice!*

*At two months pregnant, a baby’s face continues its development. Buds that will eventually be limbs begin to develop. Organs such as the brain, sensory organs, and the digestive tract begin to take shape. The cartilage in the embryo begins to be replaced by bone. By the end of the second month, the baby is about 1 inch long! After about 6 weeks, the baby’s heartbeat can be detected with an ultrasound.*

*The limbs, as well as the hands, feet, fingers, and toes, become well developed. The fingernails and toenails begin to form. The external ears and teeth begin their development as well. By the end of the 3rd month, the baby is fully formed (with all organs and extremities present), he or she weighs about an ounce and is 4 inches long!*

*Hair, eyelids, eyelashes, and nails become well developed. The heartbeat is now clearly audible through a Doppler instrument. The teeth become denser, and the baby begins to stretch, yawn and make other movements. The reproductive organs are now visible on an ultrasound. A baby can now stretch, suck their thumb, yawn, and make super cute faces.*

*This is the month that his or her nervous system develops. Their reproductive system also fully develops meaning your doctor can tell you whether you are having a girl or boy via ultrasound. By the end of the 4th month, the baby is about 6 inches long and weighs 4 ounces!*

*By month 5, a mother may start to feel the baby move. Hair growth continues on the baby's head and body.*

*At the end of month 6, the baby is about 12 inches long and can weigh close to 2 lbs! The baby will respond to external stimuli such as sounds by increasing their pulse or moving. This is when a mother may experience her baby's hiccups in jerk-like motions.*

*During month 7, the baby will continue to grow and develop the existing organs and systems. At this stage, hearing is fully developed. He or she will react to sound, pain, and light and often changes position. At the end of this month, a baby is about 14 inches long and can weigh between 2 – 4 lbs!*

*The baby continues to mature during month 8, adding to fat stores and experiencing a rapid development of the brain. The baby can see at this stage and will begin to kick more. Most of the internal organs and systems are fully developed, but the lungs still need time to mature. By month 8, a baby is close to 18 inches long and can weigh close to 5 lbs!*

*By month 9, the lungs become mature in preparation for birth. Reflexes become more coordinated, allowing the baby to respond to sounds, blink, grasp, and turn his or her head. The baby may move less during the last few weeks and will move into a position for birth, with the head down near the birth canal. The baby is now about 18-20 inches long and can weigh at least 7 lbs!<sup>1</sup>*

### **What a wonderful God we serve!**

***Psalms 139:14-16 (KJV)*** *I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. 15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.*

***Jeremiah 1:5 (KJV)*** *Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*

**This is why we pause and celebrate Women, Mothers, and Someday Mothers. At CRC, we view the role of women and the call to motherhood in the highest esteem!**

Our desire is to honor the Scriptures, and therefore be obedient to God's ordained order:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://americanpregnancy.org/healthy-pregnancy/week-by-week/baby-development-month-by-month/>

**1 Corinthians 11:3 (KJV)** *But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.*

This wonderful Scripture teaches headship, which ensures **love, support, protection, and provision for the women and children among us!**

“Women and children first” may sound old fashioned to some of you but not to us. We are calling men to lead not for the sake of domination, but for deliverance; not to be served, but to serve; not to be overly catered to but to joyfully give his life for his wife, sisters, and children!

We believe every woman is to be cherished and nurtured, treated with special gentleness and care, provided for, and protected at all costs.

**Happy Mother’s Day ladies. We truly love you!**

### **Thoughts from our Text**

1. Like every Holy Text, this one has a context: a sad one, but also an amazing one.
2. God had given Adam and his wife the whole earth in which to take dominion, the beauty of the garden. He withheld only one tree from them:

**Genesis 2:16-17 (KJV)** *And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

3. Despite the tremendous blessings of God, the serpent entered the garden and was able to successfully tempt the woman (Gen 3:1-5) with discontentment. (More on this next week LORD willing).
4. The woman succumbed to temptation and ate of the forbidden fruit. So did Adam...

**Genesis 3:6 (KJV)** *And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

5. Man fell into sin. The results were immediate:

**Genesis 3:7 (KJV)** *And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

6. They tried to hide, but could not:

**Genesis 3:8-11 (KJV)** *And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. **9** And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? **10** And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. **11** And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?*

7. God’s judgment was swift:

- Judgement upon the serpent, cursed above all cattle and beast to slither on the ground, eating dust. And more... (vv.14-15)
- Upon the woman: pain in childbearing and difficult submission to her husband. (v.16)
- Upon the man: very hard work just to provide for his family all his life (v.17-19)

8. Amazingly, despite the woman's great sin, God declared to the woman a great promise:

**Genesis 3:15 (KJV)** *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

**Her ultimate “Seed” would be the Savior!**

**Galatians 4:3-5 (KJV)** *Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: 4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.*

9. Here is something I never saw before: the context in which the woman received her name!

- Satan had come and been “successful”
- Sin had entered!
- Shame had fallen upon them!
- Fellowship with God was broken!
- Death was now a reality!
- Paradise was lost!

10. And yet despite these things, Adam looked at his woman, who was deceived first,<sup>2</sup> and chose not a harsh name for her but a beautiful name for her!

**Genesis 3:20 (KJV)** *And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.*

- Eve is *chavvâh* in Hebrew. It means “life-giving” or “a living place.”
- He didn't call her something like “āzab” which means to forsake in Hebrew, or “mûth” (to die or kill) or even “ābar” (to transgress) or “āwen” (iniquity).
- **In great love and kindness, He did not associate her name with her mistake, but rather with her mission!**
- **We can obviously see the love and forgiveness of both God and Adam. Oh how precious Eve was to them both!**
- Matthew Henry writes on this Passage:

God having named the man, and called him *Adam*, which signifies *red earth*, Adam, in further token of dominion, named the woman, and called her *Eve*, that is, *life*. Adam bears the name of the dying body, Eve that of the living soul. The reason of the name is here given: *Because she was* (that is, was to be) *the mother of all living.*

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<sup>2</sup> 1 Tim 2:14, but yes Adam was ultimately held responsible: Rom 5:12; 1 Cor 15:22

He had before called her *Ishah* - woman, as a wife; here he calls her *Evah* - life, as a mother. Now,

1. If this was done by divine direction, it was an instance of God's favour, and, like the new naming of Abraham and Sarah, it was a seal of the covenant, an assurance to them that, notwithstanding their sin and his displeasure against them for it, he had not reversed that blessing wherewith he had blessed them: *Be fruitful and multiply*. It was likewise a confirmation of the promise now made, that the seed of the woman, of this woman, should break the serpent's head.

2. If Adam did it of himself, it was an instance of his faith in the word of God. Doubtless it was not done, as some have suspected, in contempt or defiance of the curse, but rather in a humble confidence and dependence upon the blessing:

(1.) The blessing of a reprieve, admiring the patience of God, that he should spare such sinners to be the parents of all living, and that he did not immediately shut up those fountains of the human life and nature, because they could send forth no other than polluted, poisoned, streams.

(2.) The blessing of a Redeemer, and promised seed, to whom Adam had an eye, in calling his wife *Eve* - life; for he should be the life of all the living, and in him all the families of the earth should be blessed, in hope of which he thus triumphs.

- **Sisters! You are Eve's progeny and you share her purpose! You are daughters of Zion, redeemed by our Great Savior! You are Life-Givers, loved by God and the men around you!**

### **More Encouragement!**

CRC, Women and Mother's represent:

- The Miracle and Beauty of Life (Live-givers)
- The Beauty of God's Creation (Final creation)
- The Mercy of God (Divine purpose despite transgressions)
- The Victory of God's Son (A victorious seed!)
- And amazingly, the holy and chaste Church of Jesus Christ!

1. Within the earthly marital covenant, the wife represents the church!

***Ephesians 5:31-32 (KJV)** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. **32** This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.*

2. The Heavenly Jerusalem (represent by Sarah) is called our *Mother!*

***Galatians 4:26 (KJV)** But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.*

3. Indeed, Christ has a wife (or bride), the church!

**Revelation 19:6-8 (KJV)** *And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

**From previous years, here are words worth putting on constant repeat: Mothers/Sisters, remember who you are:**

1. You, like Mary, are a handmaiden of the LORD!
2. You are a daughter of Christ!
3. You are the backbone of the home and a needed and valued member of the LORD's church.
4. You are designed to be mothers (Gen 3:20), helpers and dominion takers (Gen 1:26-28, 2:18), keepers at home (Titus 2:5) and "corner stones, polished *after* the similitude of a palace." (Ps 144:12)
5. You bring grace, tenderness, and beauty to the world. You are critical in the plan of God!

You are...

1. **Beautiful** in your role as a daughter of Christ, reflecting our Lord's tenderness and care, His patience and tenacity, His submission to and love for His Father.
2. **Beautiful** in your role as an unmarried servant of the Kingdom, making the mission of your family and your church your priority until you wed.
3. **Beautiful** in your role as wife and mother, as you take up your role in the picture of Christ and His church (Eph 5), exalted in your role as the submitted bride.
4. **Beautiful** in your role as a mentor and discipler of your children, pouring consistently and exhaustingly into your progeny day after day, crying aloud for them in the secret place as only a mother can.
5. **Beautiful** when you model modesty, rejecting the examples of the world and witnessing to all of creation the Christian virtues of propriety, meekness, and humility.

### **Final thoughts:**

Earlier, I mentioned "Women and children first." I saw Pastor Michael Foster post this on Twitter the other day:

*"What is the reason "women and children" get off the sinking boat first? Is it because we are taught to see women as more valuable? Is it that men are the disposable sex?"*

*No, it's because women and children are central to a man's (and his brothers) mission and legacy.*

*Mission is indispensable. It's a spiritual and biological drive which burns in the heart of every healthy man. Therefore, men are willing to die for their legacy. This is the same reason a mother will throw herself in front of a bullet for her children.*

*It's not that she is disposable. It's for the mission and the legacy. It's for the future.*

*Both sexes want their "fruit" to remain and mature. You can think of legacy as the part of your mission that continues on into the future through your progeny, through children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. So, legacy is the culmination of your mission.*

*And therefore if the house is on fire, you run in through the flames to get your kids. If the boat is sinking and there is only so much room, you give it to them. If there is an enemy at or in borders, you put your family somewhere safe, grab your weapons, and lay down life if necessary. Just remember you can't die for a legacy that you won't live for...get to it."*

Amen. Ladies, you are worth it.