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Don't forget to wish those special women in your lives a very Happy Mother's Day!!



THE VISION

May 2017

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."

Amen. Matthew 28:19-20

I came across this great article while I was reading some devotional thoughts regarding Motherhood. I trust the Holy Spirit will bless you as He has blessed me.

"The Original Mother's Heart" By Susan Watkins

"For as long as I can remember I wanted to be an archaeologist. The whole idea of finding something buried and unseen by others appealed to me. When younger, I could be found digging in some corner of the yard. Best thing I ever found was an old spark plug calibrator. And then, I encountered Christ. My whole life changed, but my love for a good dig didn't. It was simply redirected.

God placed a treasure trove of priceless jewels within reach when I was handed a Bible.

Miner's hat? Check. Pickaxe and shovel?

Check. Burning passion to discover God?

Check. check.

In my search for God's nature, I stumbled across something stunning: His handiwork in fashioning mothers' hearts. It's easy to miss God weaving Himself into mothers and their hearts. A deep well failing definition. Greeting cards offer armies of categories addressing it. Hollywood's spent millions depicting it on-

screen. Yet the wellspring of a mother's heart remains mysterious.

Our Creator takes care to knit Himself into who we are and will become. In examining His love for us, His mothering nature is quickly apparent:

"...How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings..." Matthew 23:37

How could God reference Himself as a protective mother, lest He'd poured His compassionate nature into the mother's heart? His maternal temperament continues:

"...He will exult over you with joy; He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy." Zephaniah 3:17

"Quiet in His love," duplicates the tenderest moments between mother and child, referencing the child being fully contented and simply enjoying the closeness of its mother. The child wants nothing more than its mother's presence. It's a time of quiet love. Drawing powerful strength from her proximity alone.

Continued on page 3

Page 2



Deacon's Devotional

Sometimes the stress of life can be overwhelming. When that happens, it can lead to worry and anxiety. Let's look and see what the Bible says about that. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. —Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV). So we should turn our worries into prayers and when we do so, God promises us, His peace. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. —John 14:27. True peace, God's peace is not found in absence of conflict or in good feelings (worldly peace). It comes from knowing that God is in control.

—Your servant in Christ, Gary Mangrum



Deacon of the Week

Page 7

5/7—Ted Fisher 5/14—Jimmy Diggs 5/21—Buddy Hogge

5/28—Gary Mangrum

Nursery Workers

5/7—Beverly West 5/14—Pauline Littell 5/21—Tracy Williams

5/28—Devon Willard

May Ushers

Barbara Mangrum Chris Hutson Keith Belvin Leslie Belvin

May Tellers

Helen Spence Bill Breeden

Sun. Sch. Nursery

Sharon/Howard Warren

Older Children's Church

5/7—Sarah Saunders

5/14—Jennifer/Derick Hall

5/21—Madison/Seth Gandee

5/28—Charlene/John West

Younger Children's Church

5/7—Tracy Williams

5/14—Sonya Anthony

5/21—Denise Gandee/Mallory Wagner

5/28—Laraine Sentz/Rachel Wells

happy mother's day

CHURCH WORKERS



Fun Photo Opportunity

DOOR PRIZES

Ladies of the Church...Mothers and Daughters

The W.M.U. is inviting you to the Mother/Daughter Tea May13th at 3:00pm Gloucester Point Baptist Church.

Those age 8 years and older are invited. There are a limited number of seats for this event so be sure to sign up on the sheet on the W.M.U. bulletin board.

This is a free event. Tea and goodies will be served while you enjoy the entertainment that we have planned for you.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Continued from Page 1

Again we see His mothering side:

"Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb?" Isaiah 49:15

Who better than the Designer of mothers could explain this nurturing side of Himself? The nourishing definition of Jehovah Jireh. Our Provider. His provision in limitless care was famously spoken to Moses. Asking a yet unnamed God His name, He replied, "I Am." A statement begging to fill in the blank. "I AM everything. I AM infinite. I AM all powerful."

Until my mother's passing, I took full advantage of my family membership and went straight to her for comfort. Dad understood my running past him to reach her arms. With advancing years, hurts changed, but the source of my consolation didn't. I still went to Mom for comfort. For through her kindness, forgiveness, and never-ending compassion, I came to wholly trust God. He was easily recognizable in her and I deeply valued God's mothering heart woven tightly into hers.

The most potent attribute of God's creation of a mother's heart is His lavish forgiveness of our sins. Black sins, washed in red blood, producing robes of white righteousness. Like the mother that deliberately forgets her child's shortcomings, He casts our sins directionally as far as the east is from the west, until sinking to the floor of the Sea of Forgetfulness.

Simply stated, He is Father God with a mother's heart. Waiting to wipe every tear; sitting up with us through the night; and listening to our troubles—solving them while we are yet speaking.

The mother's heart is best defined by her unselfish generosity in ongoing, unconditional giving. Thank you, Mom, for letting me feel God's love radiate through you."

Have a blessed Mother's Day!

—Pastor Bud Goude

