**May 12, 2019 “Women of Faith” Exodus 1:8-2:10**

**Proverbs 1:7-9**

**Proverbs 6:20**

**Proverbs 31:26**

One of the more difficult things a minister has to do, is to preach sermon on a subject which is somewhat foreign to him. I, for your information, have never been a mother and I do not anticipate being one soon or at any other time in my life. They are an entity which begs description. I would come home from work and my wife would say, “you have to do something with those kids… they have just been awful today”. So, I would get after them in one way or another only to be told that I did not have to be so mean to them? How does that make sense?

How many of you mothers know that when you had children you signed up for a life hard labor? Have you ever sat down and watched a young father and mother with their small children? It is a non-stop flurry of activity. One is running after this one and the other is entertaining the other one while watching what their other children are doing and their parents are doing all this simultaneously. It is an endless scene of organized chaos.

I can distinctly remember that shortly after Becky was born that Terry and I went back to Illinois to visit her family. She, her mother and sister all decided to go shopping for the afternoon. So, Terry asked me to watch Becky while she was gone. I remember she said, “I just fed her and changed her and we will be back in a couple of hours so everything should be just fine”. Now Becky might have been two months old at this time and this is first time Terry was going to leave her with me.

So, I sat down in a chair in the living room, turned on the TV to watch one thing or another and had just settled into the chair with this little fur ball who was sound asleep when I heard this gurgling sound. I thought “what in the world was that?” Then I was assailed with a stench that would make a possum retch. I ran to the window just in time to see the car about a 100 yards down the road leaving me in this impossible dilemma.

Now this is in the days of cloth diapers with rubber pants and this gelatinous radioactive slime has found its way into every nook and cranny. Then this critter with which I have been entrusted, starts to kick and thrash around in this swamp of desolation making matters all the worse.

So, I hauled this thing over to the kitchen sink, hosed it off as best I could, dried it off, threw some corn starch on the appropriate areas, put on another diaper and rubber pants.

Sometime later Terry comes in with her mother and asks, “How did things go?” She then picks up this criminal and says, “Did you have good time with your Daddy?”

That is my view of motherhood.

But that is not a Biblical view. In fact, the Bible shows us just how heart wrenching being a mother can be and how essential a strong faith in God is required.

**Exodus 1:8-2:10**

1. Note there are 4 women in this story (actually 5 but we will look at the 4)
   1. There are:
      1. Midwives
         1. Shiphrah and Puah
      2. Mother… Jochebed (Exodus 6:20)
      3. Moses’ sister (Miriam)
2. All four are women of faith
   1. Shiphrah and Puah
      1. Exodus 1:15-21
         1. Because they feared God
         2. They were blessed
            1. Not a new thing

Daniel 3:16-18

Ezekiel 2:1-7

Acts 4:18-20

* + - 1. All who hate Me (the Lord) love death (Proverbs 8:36)
  1. The Word of God will never ever be popular among unsaved
  2. Mother (Jochebed)
     1. Exodus 2:2
        1. She bore a son
           1. What do you think was the first thought in her mind when she found out she had given birth to a son?
        2. She hides him for 3 months
           1. Can you imagine the fear in her life?
        3. Makes him a wicker basket
           1. What would be going through your mind if you were his mother?
           2. What is in the reeds?

Predators, snakes???

* + - * 1. Why put him there?

Exodus 2:5… Pharaoh’s daughter comes there to bathe

* 1. Sister (Miriam)
     1. Exodus 2:4
        1. Exodus 2:7… slave girl goes to daughter of the king?
           1. What could have happened to her by doing this?
        2. Shall I go and call a nurse from the Hebrew women?
           1. How would you feel nursing your own son knowing

He probably would never know you were his mother?

Raised in the household your cruel master?

1. Why did I choose these Scriptures today?
   1. Raising children for God always requires faith
      1. No matter what the circumstances and no matter what their age
         1. Proverbs 1:7-9
         2. Proverbs 31:26-31
         3. Hebrews 4:12… “the Word of the God is living and active and sharper than any two edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

As the world in which we now live continues to deteriorate morally and socially, the teaching of the Word of God to your children should become more and more important to you as mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers.

Use every opportunity to teach them of the goodness, kindness and the faithfulness of God.

Our world tells our children over and over again, that if you want to be happy in life you have to be wealthy and have a lot of things.

What will it profit a man if gains the whole world and loses his soul?

Remember… heaven and earth will pass away… but the Word of the Lord endures forever…

Abraham Lincoln said, “no man is poor who has had a godly mother”.

Inherent in the concept of Biblical faith is the reality of sacrifice. Genuine faith always carries with it a sacrifice of self-interest and surrender to God.

Maybe it is time that we all exemplify that concept???