

Mother's Day 2016
The Ministry of Motherhood
By Randy Henson

Mark 1:9-11

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

He hadn't done anything yet

No healing, no miracles, no crowds

"This is my boy, I am pleased with Him"

There is a deep human longing for parental approval

When we have that...

When we give that...

Mothers, when you were approved for ministry, God says to you;

"You are my Daughter, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

You have the seal of His approval for ministry

When God became a man, he didn't arrive full-grown...

He came as a baby born to a woman

Motherhood was and is a very important role in the plan of God to redeem mankind

How many of you are raising missionaries, preachers, teachers, prophets and apostles right now in your home?

Moms, never underestimate your influence and your ministry

Spiritual training can never start too early!

"You are my Daughter, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

America

Possibly the greatest thing about our country is its faith in the individual to do the right thing

Many individuals doing the right thing, is what makes the whole strong...very very strong

A free individual's identity should be held sacred and that his or her dignity and integrity should not be violated

Individual self-reliance, not that we don't need each other but that if someone else compromises or falls away we keep on

Originally America encouraged individuals to trust in the Lord and in themselves and their own consciences and to revolt against routine and habitual paths of conduct

Individualism, understood not only as self-reliance but also as economic self-sufficiency

What does this have to do with the church?

Individuals living out their calling and purpose makes the whole body strong...very very strong

How do we do this?

"Who do you say that Jesus is?"

John 8:48

The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

Jesus had been teaching and they are now at a house and it is so crowded that they cannot even eat

Mark 3:20

When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

His family thinks He is out of His mind

Matthew 16:13-14

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Basically saying that Jesus was someone who has died and come back to life, a ghost

The 11 disciple saw him

Matthew 28:17

When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

They do not know really who He is...

Mark 1:21-24

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

Who is Jesus?

Disciples

Crowds

Religious Leaders

Family

Demons know exactly who He is

Mark 5:1-7

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!"

Is he fuzzy?

Demons get it?

Everybody is fuzzy on who Jesus is except for the demons

Not only in Identity that He is the Son of God

But Authority "Have you come to torture me before the appointed time"

They believe that Jesus is who he says he is

All power and authority

Matthew 16

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

The Church needs to answer... "Who do you say that I am?"

What we think of Jesus has EVERYTHING to do with what they will think of Him!

We have experienced His love and forgiveness and grace and mercy and pursuit

We have seen His healing

We have heard His voice

Outsiders answer to the question are of great importance

It is an indicator of how our faith is being transmitted individually and as The Church

What is of the uttermost importance is our answer

What do we think who have known the Lord?

Who have walked and lived in close communion with Him?

We are to be people of deep and strong convictions

Not wavering up and down with the economy or politics or social or temporal distractions

Are we as individuals and as The Church established in the Truth of the Gospel that we preach?

We, as individuals and The Church have been double-minded and lukewarm and now we have a morally bankrupt society being run by morally bankrupt individuals with no clear path to a better tomorrow

Except Jesus and His Bride!

Matthew 16

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Spiritual authority passed on to The Church

Since the beginning of time when people began gathering in groups, The Church has always been the most important group

Peter’s answer to the question “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” is the rock that The Church is built upon

Matthew 7:24-25

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

Though trouble will come, the very “gates of Hades” will not overcome it

In Jewish tradition Hades is the region of the dead in the center of the earth

Jesus is saying that death shall have no power of members of The Church

Nothing could stand in the way of The Church on fire and in pursuit of living out our purpose on earth

As you and I look to the immediate and long-term future of this great nation let us understand that we are Christians first

I know who I say that He is

Who do you say that He is?