

"DON'T PUSH ME, MOM"

{John 2:1-11}

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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Scholars tell us that Jesus' mother, Mary was probably only twelve or thirteen years old when the angel, Gabriel appeared to her with the announcement that would alter her life and establish her role throughout eternity.

- ✚ She had found favor with God
- ✚ She was to give birth to a son whose name was to be Jesus
- ✚ She was a virgin who was to become pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit
- ✚ Her son was to be called the Son of God
- ✚ He will be great, given the throne of David...rule over the house of Jacob—and, His Kingdom will be never ending!

One might have expected her response to be that of Noah as portrayed by Bill Cosby: "RIGHT!...?" But, instead, she accepted this unaware of all the ramifications. **{VIDEO}**

Shortly thereafter she traveled to Judah to visit her cousin, Elizabeth who was in her sixth month of pregnancy carrying John the Baptist.

After their initial meeting Mary sang...

"Oh, how I praise the Lord.

How I rejoice in God my Savior!

For He took notice of His lowly servant girl, and now generation after generation will call me blessed.

For He, the Mighty One, is holy, and He has done great things for me

His mercy goes on from generation to generation, to all who fear Him!

His mighty arm does tremendous things!"

And, you're all familiar with the familiar story of the nativity, the shepherds, the scholars from the east, the flight into Egypt, and we hear no more until Jesus and His family visit the Temple when he is twelve.

The next time we hear anything about Jesus and his mother is approximately eighteen years later—He's believed to be 30 and she's in her early/mid-40's. They're in Cana attending a wedding and there's a major calamity—**they've run out of wine!**

If any of you have parented a gifted child—as was Jesus—you might have greater understanding to the scenario than anyone else. God alone knows all that took place in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. *{Never forget now the encounters that both Mary and Joseph had both prior to His birth, at His birth, and during His infancy—angelic appearances, dreams,*

visions...} They *knew* this kid was different from the gecko...but, what it *all* meant was yet to be seen.

Those of you who are parents know the challenges of raising a family...but, **none would be so challenging as raising God's Son!**

How would you describe Him to his teachers?

To your neighbors?

To His playmates?

This kid who was always talking about His Father in Heaven?

This kid who spent three days discussing deep questions with religious scholars in the Temple...at the age of 12.

But Mary was up for the challenge from the day Gabriel appeared to her and she responded...

"I'm the Lord's servant, and I am willing to accept whatever He wants. May everything you have said come true!"

When you put all this in perspective, this encounter at the wedding in Cana gives some insight as to events that may have occurred previously between the two of them.

One point is clear: **Mary was a powerful woman...and, make no mistake about it, God has chosen her for this task.** She may have known beforehand who Jesus was—*as did Joseph*—but **it was her task to bring Him up...to mold Him as best she could.**

She demonstrated a number of motherly tools...

1. SHE KNEW THE POWER OF DIVINE POTENTIAL

She was the key to his discovery of who He was. She knew that **God had a divine plan for Him.** Our text this morning gives evidence that **she looked for signs in His life that may give evidence to who He was and His ultimate potential. Blessed is the child whose mother seeks the will of God and devotes herself to doing all she can to align that child to knowing God's plan for their life!**

2. SHE KNEW THE POWER OF PROPER PATTERNS

She trained her child in everything from walking, eating, social skills... The Bible says that *"Jesus grew both in height and in wisdom, and He was loved by God and by all who knew Him."* {Luke 2:52, NLT}

His was a balanced life—mentally, physically, socially, spiritually!

By her example she demonstrated the Godly life before Jesus and His siblings.

...they attended synagogue regularly on the Sabbath

...they practiced their Judaism

...observed festivals...feasts

They instilled everything they knew in Him and He observed them in prayer, faithfulness, giving, and serving. **That's the task of every parent!**

Mary wove the very image of God in Jesus' life.

3. SHE KNEW THE POWER OF POSITIVE AFFIRMATION

This is what we see portrayed at the wedding in Cana.

- ...Mary had faith in Jesus—even before the miracles
- ...Mary believed in Him and what He had to say
- ...Mary had experienced Him in her life for 30 years
- ...**Mary was the first member of Jesus' fan club**
- ...**Mary was proud of her son!**

When she tells him, ***"They have no more wine!"*** she is affirming that she believes in Him and knows intuitively that He can do something about it.

- ...she doesn't *really* ask Him for anything
- ...she merely *"implies"* that maybe He could look into the problem
- ...and...her concern put Jesus on the spot and His response is fascinating... ***"Dear woman, why do you involve Me?"***

It's as if He says, ***"Don't push me, mom!"*** Could it be that perhaps Jesus was a little bit embarrassed? Moms—as we saw earlier in the video—do have a way of doing that at times. *{How well I recall those days when company would visit when I was a kid and mom would say, "Play the piano for them, Jacky!"}* **Don't push me, mom!** 😊

Down deep, Mary was affirming Jesus—and was being nudged by the Holy Spirit to indicate to Him that indeed ***"His time"*** had come!

How important it is to affirm children—let them know we believe in them and their capabilities.

- ✚ She responds by telling the servants: ***"Do what He tells you!"***
- ✚ How did she know this was ***"His time?"***
- ✚ I'll give a simple reply: **MOM'S KNOW!**

4. SHE KNEW THE POWER OF LETTING GO

Her comment released Jesus from her apron strings and saying: ***"Go get 'em kid! This is what you're destined for!"***

CONCLUSION

You know the rest of the story—Chelsea read it for us earlier...

"This, the first of Jesus miraculous signs was performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him!"

- ✚ He turned 20-30 gallons of water into wine
- ✚ He saved the wedding feast
- ✚ He honored His mother's persistence...her faith...her devotion
- ✚ Jesus earthly ministry was launched because of the gentle nudge of a loving, believing mother who saw the potential...the power of positive patterns...of positive affirmations...and when to let go of the Son God had entrusted her to raise.

