

Happy Mother's Day

Mark 3:20-21, 31-34

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Prayer

Revelation 22:17 *"The Spirit and the Bride say come Lord Jesus."*

Lord God, I think maybe that is your Spirit *in* the Bride. In the Old Testament, I know that the pronoun for Spirit is a feminine pronoun. God, I don't understand how all that works, but it is by your Spirit that we say to you, Lord Jesus, come and speak to us, and fill us. Come Lord Jesus. Come Word of God and be glorified in this place. In your name, Lord Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Happy Mother's Day. I checked the calendar a few weeks ago and realized I'd be preaching on Mother's Day and thought, "Oh, no!" It's not that I don't like mothers—one gave birth to me, and I'm married to another, and they're both wonderful. It's just that I don't know what to say on Mother's Day, and no matter what I say, someone feels bad that I said it so I Googled "Happy Mother's Day images" and found this:

If you go to the card shop, the racks will be full of stuff like this:

[Image of a Precious Moments greeting card]

M . . . is for the million things she gave me (that's good).
O . . . means only that she's growing old (that's creepy)
T . . . is for the tears she shed to save me (that's borderline idolatry).
H . . . is for her heart of purest gold.
E . . . is for her eyes, with love-light shining.
R . . . means right, and right she'll always be.

(I'd add an "E" and a "D.")

E is for extremely and . . .

D is for disturbing.

Like I said, I love my mom. But have you ever met a mom that's always right? I mean we read this shlock and say this shlock on Mother's Day. But if you do believe this shlock, you are what the Bible calls an idolater. Don't misunderstand me; your mom is awesome, she is!!! But she's not always right. And would you make your mom the Savior? That's a lot of pressure on your mom to be the savior and the creator.

We say things like: "Mothers make babies." But it's a lot of pressure to be the mother, creator, and savior of all babies, which is all humanity. But on Mother's Day at florist shops, gift shops, and card shops that's what we seem to say. "Worship your mother (and use our cards to do it, only \$6.95)." We say it at card shops and sometimes in church and so some women feel proud, and many women feel like absolute failures. Don't get me wrong, be grateful for your mom, but don't worship your mom or you'll end up killing your mom, and you will be an idolater . . .

So . . . Happy Mother's Day!

I Googled "Mother's Day" and found this video from the History Channel.

History of Mother's Day Clip

[Various correlating images and reenactments are shown with the following script.]

The ancient Greeks were among the first to pay tribute to mom . . . sort of. Their spring festival honored Rhea, the mother of all Greek gods. That holiday didn't pan out, but the modern era Mother's Day was created by Anna Marie Jarvis. Anna admired her mother who attended to the wounded during America's Civil War.

After a fierce letter writing campaign, Anna got Congress to federally recognize the holiday, and in 1914 President Wilson signed a bill that officially made the second Sunday in May Mother's Day. By 1924 the holiday creator was so appalled with the commercialization of Mother's Day that she petitioned to abolish it. In 1930, Anna was arrested for disturbing the peace at a Mother's Day carnation sale.

Anna died eighteen years later in 1948 having spent the rest of her life, and her family inheritance, fighting to have Mother's Day abolished. She died with no children. See? It's hard to know quite what to say on Mother's Day because it's been commercialized and turned into idolatry for profit, kind of like religion. And it's hard to know what to say because it intersects so many painful places, particularly in women. It's not like you can just decide to be a mother or not be a mother.

Some of you are like Anna Marie Jarvis. Maybe you want to be a mother and can't be a mother. Or maybe you are a mother, with a broken heart. Maybe your child broke your heart. Maybe you broke your child's heart. Maybe you are a mother and don't want to be a mother because the pain is more than you can bear.

So, Happy Mother's Day.

It's hard to know what to say on Mother's Day, and so it's worth asking, "What does the Bible say on Mother's Day?"

Several years ago, someone told me about a particular church on a particular Mother's Day. Someone got up to read the pastor's Mother's Day text before the pastor preached his Mother's Day sermon on that Mother's Day text. They were supposed to read 2 Timothy 1: 4-5

Paul writes, "As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well" (2 Timothy 1:4-5).

That's a great Mother's Day text, but instead of reading 2 Timothy 1: 4-5, they read 1 Timothy 2:14-15 *"...and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a*

transgressor. Yet she [singular] will be saved through childbearing – if they [plural] continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.”

That’s a more challenging Mother’s day text . . . don’t you think? I mean, at first glance, the Bible doesn’t seem to help too much with Mother’s Day.

“Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived, yet she will be saved through childbearing – if they continue in faith and love...”

What an utterly bizarre Bible verse with such atrocious grammar. How is “the woman” saved through childbearing? And how can *woman* (singular) become *they* (plural) in the same sentence?

It’s verses like this that have led people to say, “The Bible is sexist, and Paul was a misogynist.” Well, if by “sexist” you mean the belief that there is a difference between male and female, you might be right. But if you think Saint Paul hated women, I suspect that you are wrong. It was Paul who wrote, “*In Christ there is neither male nor female.*” “. . . *neither male nor female*” “*in Christ.*” But in this world, there is male and female, and according to Paul it’s supposed to teach us something about God and us.

“So God created Adam (man) in His own image. In the image of God he created him; male and female he created them” (Gen. 1: 27)

In His image and according to Genesis, it’s true that Eve was deceived. And it’s true that Adam took the fruit because she took the fruit. Eve messed up. But then, God says, “*The seed of the woman . . . (or more literally “The sperm of the woman”) will crush the head of the snake*” (Gen. 3:15).

Eve means “*mother of the living.*” That’s the start of the Bible. At the end of the Bible, in The Revelation, John has a vision of a woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and a crown with twelve stars on her head. In “anguish to deliver” she gives birth to Jesus, and the great red dragon—that is the snake, and is Satan—falls to earth and makes war on the woman and the rest of her offspring who appear to be us.

“Those who keep the commandments of God and hold the testimony of Jesus” (Revelation 12:17) “*Those who do the will of God.*” Crazy!

But for now, I just hope you realize that the biblical view of woman is a little different than the modern American view. And the biblical view of motherhood is *very* different than that of the Hallmark Corporation.

In places, the Bible does seem to point to a failure in “*the woman.*” And yet, in this utterly fascinating way, everything happens through “*the woman,*” including “*the man.*” In fact, Jesus happens through “*the woman.*”

So who is “*this woman?*” Who is “*this mother of Jesus and us?*” Well, Jesus tells us! We just struggle to believe. In Mark 3, Jesus heals people, casts out demons and calls the twelve apostles. Then in verse 20, we read: “*Then He went home, and the crowd gathered again, so*

that they could not even eat. And when His family heard it, they went out to seize Him, for they were saying, 'He is out of his mind'."

Jesus' family plans to do an intervention because they think Jesus is nuts.¹

Mark 3:31

And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." And He answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"

And someone cried out, "Jesus, be nice. It's your mom!"

H is for a heart of purest gold

E is for eyes with love-light shining.

R is for Right she'll always be . . ."

(Actually, we don't know if anyone said it, but I bet they thought it!)

Jesus said, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother" (Mark 3:33-35).

"Whoever does the will of God" IS (He didn't say LIKE . . .) He said, "...IS my brother, sister AND mother."

IF you're a brother or sister of Jesus, you have the same mother as Jesus. But you also ARE the mother of Jesus . . . Jesus said, "*brother, sister, AND mother!*" Do the math. If you are the mother of Jesus, you are the mother of His brothers, and sisters, and the mother of yourself—a new self. But this is most shocking: you are the mother of Jesus! Not LIKE a mother of Jesus . . . you ARE *the* mother of Jesus.

And wow! That's super hard to believe but, if it's true, it sure explains a lot.

1. It explains our confusion on Mother's Day, for "*whoever does the will of God is a mother.*"
2. It explains the Bible's weird view of women. We are all "the woman."
3. It explains why "doing the will of God" is such a strange, confusing, painful, humiliating and absolutely wonderful thing.

¹ In the next verse, Jesus starts arguing with the Bible scholars from Jerusalem that have come to check him out. Jesus' family just thinks He's nuts. The Bible scholars think He has a demon. Jesus is telling them, and the crowd that's gathered around Him, about the ancient dragon and the unforgiveable sin, when His mom and siblings arrive planning to do the intervention.

Now, most of us know this, but we don't really believe this. And I think that's why we get so worked up over Scripture on this topic and the words of Saint Paul. I don't think Paul hated women. In fact, he refers to himself as a woman.

In Galatians, he writes that he's having "*labor pains*" until Christ be formed in the Galatians. In Ephesians, he writes that God made Adam male and female as a reference to Christ and the Church. In fact, he calls Jesus the "*Eschatos Adam*" so when he writes, "*Adam wasn't deceived*" he doesn't mean that men are not deceived. He writes endlessly about the fact that all men are deceived. All are deceived, except One, and that's Jesus the *Eschatos Adam*. Eve is us: the harlot who becomes the Bride of Christ, who is the *Eschatos Adam*.

Because we were deceived and took the fruit, Jesus, who was not deceived also took the fruit; for He would not "*leave us or forsake us.*" In the words of Paul, "*He who knew no sin became sin that we might become the righteousness of God.*" We receive His righteousness when we surrender to His love by grace through faith. He gives us His very Spirit, and we bear the fruit of that Spirit, the fruit, which is His very own life.

We are "*the woman,*" and we're saved by giving birth to the Christ, and the Christ destroys the "*work of the devil.*" Like God said in Genesis 3, "*The seed of the woman will crush the head of the snake.*" I think we are the woman clothed in the sun: the Bride of Christ and Mother of Christ.

So Mary gave birth to Jesus, but Jesus said, "*The one who does the will of God is my mother.*" And now, I know that sounds crazy. I know that you're already planning an intervention for me, but I didn't say it, Jesus said it. And if it is true, it explains a lot:

1. Why Mother's Day is confusing
2. The weird things the Bible says about women
3. It explains why "*doing the will of God*" is such a strange, confusing, painful, humiliating and wonderful thing.

Jesus said, "*The one who does the will of God IS my mother.*" So what is the will of God, and how do we do it? Well, I think we all assume that the will of God is like a list. (Maybe even written on stone.) So, we read the list and take knowledge of God's will, and then we choose to do God's will. That is, we will to do what God has willed. But there's a major problem with that idea²: I think if "*doing God's will*" is *me* willing what God has willed, then I'm not doing God's will. I'm imitating God's will, with my will, which is not doing God's will. I think that's what most folks think Christianity is, that it's "*taking knowledge of God's will*" and then trying really hard to imitate God's will. That's also what some people think motherhood is. That it's taking knowledge of motherhood, and then trying really hard to be a mother.

His for heart of gold,
E is for eyes with love- light shining.
R is for right she'll always be.

² If doing God's will is *me* willing what God *has* willed, then isn't God's will dependent on my will?

Well, that's NOT what makes you a mother, and trying really hard won't make you "do God's will." It will just make you idolize your own will—yourself.

So what is God's will? Well, the law describes God's will like a greeting card might describe a good mother. The law describes God's will, but it's not the same as God's will. (In other words, you can fake God's will—with your own will.)

In John 1: 13, Scripture says the believers are born NOT of the will of man, but the will of God. That means my will doesn't create God's will, but God's will creates me, and a good will within me.

In John 6, Jesus says that "doing the work of God" is faith.

In Galatians 3, Paul teaches that faith "came to us" as Christ "came to us."

In Galatians 5, He says the only thing that counts is "faith working through love."

In Galatians 6, he calls that "*a new creation*." So faith in us is Christ in us, the will of God in us—the new creation in us, like a baby.

Think about it! Isn't the will of God the Word of God? And didn't His word become flesh and dwell among us, and His name is Jesus? Jesus said, "*Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom, but the one who does the will of my Father in heaven*" ("DOES the will") "*Many will say to me...did we not do many mighty works in your name? And I will say to them, 'I never knew you'*" (Matt. 7:21-22).

If He'd known them, they'd be doing the will. When a man knows a woman in the Bible, the woman gets pregnant with the life of that man and sometimes gives birth to the life of that man; his seed impregnates her. And Jesus referred to the Word of God as seed. Or think of it this way: the law is summed up in one word and that love. God is love and so real love is God. And the Word of Love in flesh is Jesus or think of it this way: Jesus said, "I have not come to abolish the law, I came to fully fill the law." The law describes Jesus, but Jesus *is* Jesus. Your will does not create Jesus, but Jesus *does* create your will by impregnating you with His life—God's Word—the Promised Seed.

Jesus is God's will. And that means "*doing God's will*" is not like reading directions in a book and then choosing to follow those directions. If that were the case, you could make God's will work for you. But you can't. God's will doesn't work for you. God's will works you, like my will works my body. So doing God's will is not like reading directions and choosing to follow those directions. Doing God's will is giving birth to Jesus and so Jesus meant it when He said it: "*the one who does the will of God is my mother*." And we seem to have forgotten what it is that makes a mother.

So this past week when I thought, "Oh no! I have to preach on Mother's Day." I felt like God kept saying to me, "Peter, you've forgotten what it is that makes a mother. Descriptions of the perfect mother cannot make a woman into a mother."

So this does not make a mother.

[Image of a Precious Moments greeting card]

And this is NOT what it looks like to do God's will.
This is what it looks like to do God's will:

Edited clip from *Knocked Up*

A lady in a hospital bed, in the process of giving birth is begging for an epidural. Her doctor informs her that it is too late for one. She begs and pleads for one, but the doctor explains that it's impossible. Between contractions, she continues to beg for an epidural. She even says, "I'll make sure it doesn't come out!" While almost pushing she grunts, "I'll stop pushing!! I'll stop pushing! Please!" The doctor responds, "You'll just have to do it the natural way. The way you wanted to." She finally concedes and begins to push through screams and pain. So much so that the nurse standing beside her requests that she "keep it down" in order not to scare the other pregnant women.

The scene changes to the waiting area where friends and others hear her in pain. They discuss the situation, and finally, a young man decides to check on her. He enters the room right as the baby is crowning. The lady notices him, turns to the door and screams, "Get out!" The young man backs out of the door quickly in apology. The screams continue.

The father returns to the waiting room. A friend asks, "You all right buddy." He nods a bit, then sits down gasping for air." His friend continues, "What'd it look like?" The young father responds, "I shouldn't have gone in there! Promise me you won't go in there!"

The screaming continues, and the doctor coaches the mom through the labor. The baby is born and the mother smiles, leans back to rest, and the baby is handed to her. Her partner kisses her saying, "I love you so much!" The scene ends.

Happy Mother's Day!

You sitting here this morning are the Mother of Jesus—the Word of God, and that's what it looks like to do the will of God, and that explains a lot. There is no way I can elucidate all the implications, but I'd like to name a few:

Implications of Mark 3:35 for "doing the will of God."

1. *For one, you don't have to be good to be a mother . . . or do the Will of God.*

The name of that movie is "knocked up." And she got "knocked up" before she chose to be married.

You may do the will of God before you've committed your life to Christ. But you will not do the will of God before Christ has committed His life to you. He did that on the cross and at the foundation of the world. He wed Himself to you in an eternal covenant.

Well, you don't have to be good to become a mother. One look at Jesus's family tree in Matthew chapter 1 will tell you that Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba are Jesus' grandmothers. That list includes Gentiles, prostitutes, even an incestuous cult prostitute, and an accessory to

murder. You don't have to be good to be a mother, but becoming a mother may make you good. At first it may seem easy.

2. *At first it may seem easy . . . and rather enjoyable.*

It's easy to get pregnant with the child. And it's easy to conceive of the word of God.

And please note: that is how you become a mother.

People ask, "How do I do the will of God?" Well, in Mark 3, Jesus points out a group of people that are "doing the will of God." For He says, "these people" are "my mother" and "these people" are the crowd just sitting around. They're just sitting around Him listening to the word. That's it. They are like broken, dirty ground and His word is seed. They have done nothing more than surrender to a moment of passion. They just had a thought like, "Hey I like this Jesus and so I'll give Him a listen." And that thought is like a seed that will grow into a King and His entire Kingdom.

3. *And it may seem impossibly hard.*

I mean you can't just decide to get pregnant and you can't just decide to do the will of God. You can't simply will God's will on your own. Jesus said, "*Apart from me you can do nothing*" (John 15:5b)

4. *The Will of God is not your decision, but God's decision in you.*

Sorry to sound crass, but you can't do God's will until you've been done by God's will. In other words, "*We love* (which is God's will) because *He first loved us*" (1 John 4:19).

God's Will may seem easy at first, but there will come a time when it will seem impossible. "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbor as yourself*" That may sound easy at first, but get a good look at it, and you'll think, "That's impossible!" Imagine how this first sounded to Adam, "Be fruitful and multiply!" "Okay" and "What exactly does that mean?" "I mean make a person within your own body, then push the person out of your body, out of a hole between your legs? You'd say, "That's insanity!"

And now some of you are at that point. You're praying, "God, you were so attractive to me, and I really wanted to follow you. I was really attracted to you, but this is insane; this is impossible." Well, it is impossible for *you*, but *not* for God.

5. *It will get confusing. And it will hurt.*

So, at first the will of God may seem easy and downright enjoyable, but at some point, it will get dreadfully confusing. And you will think, "Something is wrong. This can't be right. I feel nauseous and my emotions are all over the map, and how come I'm getting fat? What's wrong?" You'll get confused, and it will hurt; your back will ache; your head will hurt, and you will get tired. And you will think, "Something's wrong," but everything's right.

But imagine if you thought that doing the will of God was like reading directions in a book and then just following directions. Imagine if you thought it was taking knowledge of the good and then just willing to good. Imagine if you didn't know that doing the will of God was actually giving

birth to the very Life of God. I know a young husband who thought his wife was dying. They rushed her to the hospital and she was giving birth. That explains a lot, the cramps, the weight gain, and what they thought was death was the manifestation of life!

6. *You may think, "It was a bad decision to do the Will of God."*

Doing the will of God may be easy and enjoyable at first but then it gets very confusing and painful. You may even try to go back on the decision.

7. *But it's too late. The Will of God will happen.*

Ephesians 1:11 "God accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will." It's too late, you already prayed, "Thy will be done" "Thy kingdom come." It's coming!

I love how Catherine Haeckel says, "I won't push. I won't push." But it's too late. She'll have to push.

The will of God's working her!

Push . . . Rest. Push . . . Rest. Labor . . . Rest.

That's what the Christian life is like. And it will happen. God's will *must* happen.

God has willed that you would do His will.

Paul writes to the Philippians in their suffering saying, "*It is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure*" (Philip. 2:13) So "*work out your salvation...*" (Philip 2:12).

8. *The Will of God is not the result of your works, but the Will of God will work you.*

Just like a child is not the work of human flesh, but a child will work your human flesh. Mothers actually don't make babies, God does. But God uses babies to make mothers. When each of our kids were born it became immediately obvious to Susan and me that this baby is a miracle, and I didn't make this miracle, but this miracle is making me. So the will of God makes you, but first it feels like it's going to kill you.

9. *The Will of God will humiliate you.*

I have seen it happen four times. The first time I watched my wife give birth, I had never seen a person endure such pain. It was anguish—body broken and blood shed, and I thought she might die. And it was humiliating. It was not pretty. It was humiliating. What I saw that day, you will never ever, ever, see on the cover of a Hallmark card. And yet it is exactly what it means to be a mother: anguish, confusion, pain, body broken, blood shed, and a miracle! The first thing my wife said when she looked at my son was, "Oh! I want another one!"

10. *The Will of God is hard labor, but you will **LOVE** the Will of God.*

A mother loves her child because that child has passed through her body. And even if you adopt a child, that child will pass through your body, pass through blood, sweat, and tears, and you will love that child. You will not be proud; you will be grateful.

Long ago, we wanted to know the Will of God, and we thought it was like knowledge in the book or fruit hanging from a tree that we could take and be proud we had. We wanted to know the Will of God, but the Will of God chooses to know us and causes us to give birth to Him and be grateful.

You will love the will of God because you've birth of God. And, like mothers, you will give birth as long as you live. Mothers give life to their children as long as they. And so, mothers, more than anyone else in the world, are most likely to love their children unconditionally. A mother will keep loving her child even when (and especially when) the whole world has rejected her child.

You will love the Will of God even when He's, broken, beaten, and powerless.

You will love the Will of God even though an entire world hates the Will of God.

You will love the Will of God even when He's burdened with sin and crucified in shame.

You will love the will of God because you are His mother, and this is what it means to be a mother:

Clip from *The Passion*

Mary kisses the face of Jesus—The Will of God—even when He's, broken, beaten, and powerless.

She loves Him and hopes—even when He is hated by the world.

She waits in hope—even when the Will of God does not “work” for her.

Happy Mother's Day!

To you who are just sitting here listening to the Word, Happy Mother's Day!

I have some female friends who want to be mothers and think they can't be mothers. Some are married; some are single. I was talking to one after church a few weeks ago. She shared a little of her sorrow and said something like: “I don't understand what God is doing. I don't think I'll ever be a mother, but I'll keep trusting—what else can I do?”

Well, you see, that's called faith, and faith is “the Will of God.” Faith in you is the fruit of the Spirit in you. And faith *from* you is Jesus born *of* you into this world. People think faith is like an illusion, but Faith is more solid than the mountains and one day will see it. We'll see Him. So to my friend who thinks she can't have children, but she does have faith and speaks faith, to you I'm saying, Happy Mother's Day!

This week, I had coffee with a middle-aged friend, a male friend. In the last few years, he's been through hell. He shared with me his physical disabilities and mental disabilities and how he's cried out to God weeping, and then he shared how he's grateful. Now I'm paraphrasing, but he said, “Peter, I've learned to love like I never loved before.” Well, love is not his decision. Actually, he is giving birth to God's decision.

And now some of you think that's a metaphor, but it's not a metaphor! If anything is the metaphor, giving birth to babies is a metaphor and giving birth to Love is the substance. Nothing is more solid, permanent or real than Love. “God is love,” and “real love is God.”

So, when you love, you give birth to God in flesh—Jesus.

So to my middle-aged male friend who's suffered so much, but is so grateful for the opportunity to love, to you I say, Happy Mother's Day!

And to you who have actually given birth to physical babies I say, Happy Mother's Day, And thank you, thank you, thank you." I thank God for what He has done through you! You are the ones who show all of us who we truly are. We are the Bride of Christ giving birth to the Body of Christ—an absolutely strange, confusing, painful, humiliating and wonderful thing. So, to all of you, I say, Happy Mother's Day.

I don't care if you've been a bad mother (I know how bad some mothers can be. Your badness is not stronger than God's goodness) Happy Mother's Day. I don't care if you've been a bad mother or good mother. I don't care if you're fifteen or ninety-five. I don't care if you're male or female—Happy Mother's Day—because you are the Mother of Jesus. And how do I know that? Well, because you're doing God's Will. And how do I know you're doing God's will? Because you're sitting around listening to His Word. It's how you get pregnant! You surrendered to a moment of passion—this is the passion . . . [Peter walks to the communion table.]

Communion

[Peter points to the bread and wine.] This is the passion. On the night He was betrayed He took bread and broke it saying, "This is my body broken for you." And He took the cup saying, "This is the covenant in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Drink of it, all of you."

So, this is your Bridegroom. This is the sanctuary of the covenant, and this is eternal seed

And there is one other implication to what Jesus says in Mark chapter 3

11. The Will of God will save you.

You will be saved through childbearing as you give birth to Faith working through love.

Happy Mother's Day!

Benediction

Did you surrender to a moment of passion in the sanctuary of the eternal covenant? Maybe it was just with a mustard seed of faith. That's enough. The devil has lost his game. Let me ask you something else. Do you ever feel confused, nauseous, like something is dreadfully wrong? And you think, "This must be wrong?" At that moment, I think there's a voice that sometimes speaks to us. It says something like this to me, "Peter that's because God hates you. You are going to die, and that's the end of the story. If you hear that voice, that's the voice of the accuser. That's the voice of the snake. And do you see? Why does he speak that to you? Well, he knows what you're giving birth to will crush his head.

But there's another voice—a Word that God speaks into my heart in the midst of confusion and anguish, and the voice says something like this: "Peter, what you think is wrong is what's so right. You're giving birth to me. Can you think of a better way that I could get you to love me? Look at how much your wife likes your kids, isn't that weird? Look at how much your mom likes you, that's really weird! Well, I'm going to get you to love me. You're my Mother. "

If you think to yourself, “I can’t be the Mother of Jesus; I’m a bad mother.” Well, who are you to argue with the Word of God? You heard the Word. You surrendered to a moment of passion. God accomplishes all things according to the counsel of *His Will*, and He said, “These people sitting here are my Mother. You don’t make yourself a good mother. Jesus makes you His Mother, and that makes you good.

Believe the Gospel in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Disclaimer: This document is a draft and has not been edited by the author. Therefore, there may be discrepancies. Some discrepancies may be minor; some may have to do with theology. When in doubt, please refer to the audio version of the sermon on this website and don’t be shy about informing us of errors.