

## Moses Mom

*prayer*

We have come together this morning for two primary reasons.

First and Foremost is to honour our Lord Jesus Christ with our worship.

The second is to honour our mothers, our grandmothers and the mothers of our children.

These are lifetime tasks; they can be fully accomplished in a single worship service.

I do not believe that anything has ever been said or ever will be said that contains enough beauty to truly express the true value of a mother...

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does.

The next day in a written test, she included this question: My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?

When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word Mother.

Exodus 1:22-2:9

*"...the king gave a command to everyone in the nation, "As soon as a Hebrew boy is born, throw him into the Nile River! But you can let the girls live."*

*A man from the Levi tribe married a woman from the same tribe, and she later had a baby boy. He was a beautiful child, and she kept him inside for three months. But when she could no longer keep him hidden, she made a basket out of reeds and covered it with tar. She put him in the basket and placed it in the tall grass along the edge of the Nile River. The baby's older sister stood off at a distance to see what would happen to him. About that time one of the king's daughters came down to take a bath in the river, while her servant women walked along the river bank. She saw the basket in the tall grass and sent one of the young women to pull it out of the water. When the king's daughter opened the basket, she saw the baby and felt sorry for him because he was crying. She said, "This must be one of the Hebrew babies." At once the baby's older sister came up and asked, "Do you want me to get a Hebrew woman to take care of the baby for you?" "Yes," the king's daughter answered. So the girl brought the baby's mother, and the king's daughter told her, "Take care of this child, and I will pay you." The baby's mother carried him home and took care of him. And when he was old enough, she took him to the king's daughter, who adopted him. She named him Moses because she said, "I pulled him out of the water"*

This morning I want to talk about Jochebed. Here is a mother who would not bow to the edict of the King. He stated that firstborn male children should be put to death. Most mothers I know, including my own - and my wife are gentle and loving... but threaten their children and Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

Jochebed would not let her child be thrown into the river, she defied the King, in that she made a boat of his basket... He would go into the river, but she would trust God to help her son.

This woman trusted God and defended her child and as a result the whole nation of Israel would be removed under her sons leadership and dedication to God from slavery.

I don't think she knew what her son would become, but the love of a mother reflects Gods love to each of us. I believe that mothers are God's gift to us. We are told that she did see that there was something different about him and he was beautiful.

Hebrews 11:23

*"Because Moses' parents had faith, they kept him hidden until he was three months old. They saw that he was a beautiful child, and they were not afraid to disobey the king's orders"*

So... Did God bless this woman for her faithfulness? After all, her son was not with her always... he was adopted by the Royal family.

How many would blame God for having to put the baby in the basket and give him over to the king's daughter and miss the miracle?

Yet God made a way, the child was protected and the mother was employed looking after her own son. How many of us here today can see God's fingerprints all over this?

Well... Moses was her third child. Her first-born was Aaron, who became the high priest of Israel and her second child was Miriam was a gifted poet, prophetess and musician.

Why did God bless this woman with such amazing children?

She determined in her heart to walk in faith and stand firm against the evil in the world. An evil that threatened her son's life and that had taken the freedom of her people. She chose love over fear.

When I think of Miriam.... I love that she watches over him on his journey down the river... What an image of a loving sister. Mom has obviously been instilling caring in all her children. I personally believe that this sister would have jumped in to help if something had gone wrong...

The princess finds Moses...

When we look at what happens next we see that Miriam emerges from her hiding place and approaches Pharaoh's daughter, offering to find a Hebrew woman to nurse the child.

The princess agrees and Miriam brings her own mother and the mother of Moses to care for him.

"Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you," Pharaoh's daughter says to Jochebed. (Exodus 2:9).

Hence, as a result of Miriam's courage and choosing to walk in faith; as a result, his birth mother raised Moses... until he was weaned. He was then adopted by the princess and became a member of the Egyptian royal family.

Jochebed had a quality that every woman who has come to know God possesses.

She has in her heart a great respect for human life and never ending love for her children. She showed this in that she demonstrated an overpowering love to preserve the lives of her children.

What a contrast this presents us with today, as there are those who take the life of over a million babies a year through abortion. How sad and tragic and what a horrible impact on the mother for the rest of her life.

Regarding most loving mothers, I as well as many, if not all of you here have been truly blessed. I personally can never escape the memories of the embrace of my loving mom. I am sure many of you feel the same.

Moms are eternal, in that a part of them lives on in their children. Even after she has gone, her love, teaching and training guide remain with us forever and guide us on the path we must follow to be happy in life.

How powerful are the memories of a blessed mother!

I have been blessed with such a mother!

Remember how Pharaoh's daughter raised Moses as her own son?

She gave him her name, his education, and all the wealth and grandeur of ancient Egypt. Yet, by the grace of God and lessons learned from his loving mother Moses refused to be an Egyptian prince. This would be a pretty sweet deal, what spiritual truths and foundation she must have instilled in him, for him to resist the temptations of station and position.

This is truly a testimony of the spiritual truths that he had been taught by his mother.

Scripture tells us that Moses was not willing to put aside the spiritual base built by his real mother!

Years later Paul wrote to Timothy these words in 2 Timothy 1:5

*I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.*

It was through the faith, steadfast love and caring of one mother that her son was saved and a nation delivered from slavery. Today, most of us have received steadfast love, guidance, training and security from our mothers. Let us be grateful and show honor and respect today to those who have brought us into this world.

I know this because I am reminded of sage advice from my mom, when I was going astray... I brought you into this world.... I can take you out!

Mom's you are amazing people. Today we honor and appreciate you.

Moms stand firm; be tenacious and choose faith over fear every time and teach your children about the spiritual truths of Jesus.