

Crossville Church of Christ

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Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
David Kerley
Doug Loveday
Greg Maxwell
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Roger Smith
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Barry Kennedy
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class

Tuesdays 11AM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays 10 AM

Joyful Generation

(Youth Devotional & fellowship)

1st Sunday 7:00 PM

COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation

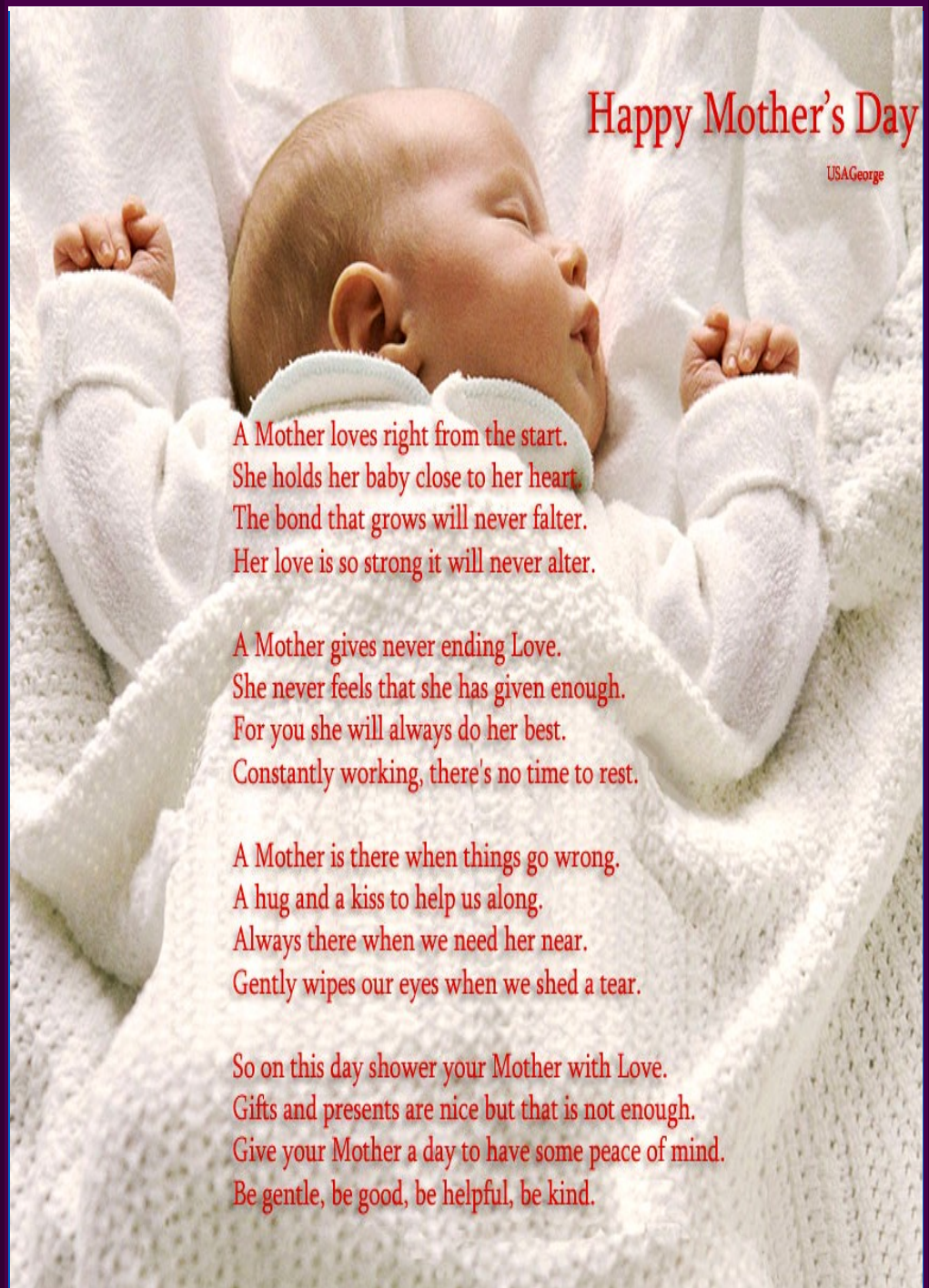
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May 10, 2015



Happy Mother's Day

USA George

A Mother loves right from the start.
She holds her baby close to her heart.
The bond that grows will never falter.
Her love is so strong it will never alter.

A Mother gives never ending Love.
She never feels that she has given enough.
For you she will always do her best.
Constantly working, there's no time to rest.

A Mother is there when things go wrong.
A hug and a kiss to help us along.
Always there when we need her near.
Gently wipes our eyes when we shed a tear.

So on this day shower your Mother with Love.
Gifts and presents are nice but that is not enough.
Give your Mother a day to have some peace of mind.
Be gentle, be good, be helpful, be kind.

MARY—A HOLY MOTHER

Derrick Coble

Mothers have a special relationship with their children. There is a bond of love, care, concern, and nurture that should always radiates from mother to child. In return, children should have the same relationship with their mother. There should be a sense of honor toward her (Eph. 6:2), obedience (Pro. 6:20), and blessings rather than cursing (Pro. 20:20) mimicking the relationship that Mary had with Jesus and her other children. Thus, mothers ought to be holy like Mary. She wasn't anyone special—just a poor and humble lady from Nazareth who was worthy of praise because of her godly life. "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women" (Luke 1:28).

Mary was highly favored and holy in humility (Luke 1:48). She was honest enough to look at herself as a lowly handmaiden (humble slave of God). She was a special lady because of her purity, her faith, and goodness (Mat. 1:23). Even though she was blessed as the mother of the Lord, she didn't look at herself as the "Queen of Heaven" or as the "Mother of God" (as some have magnified her) because she had no divine nature. She simply saw herself as one who needed a Savior just like everyone else. "And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour" (Luke 1:46,47). Holy mothers today do the same.

Furthermore, Mary was holy in virtue. She was a strong and powerful woman of valor who knew to lead her children after the ways of God (cf. Pro. 31:10-28). From the way that she reared Jesus we know that she was concerned with being a good and godly mother. "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him . . . And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:40, 52). Mothers like Mary will teach their children the Scriptures (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15), train their children in the way they should go (Pro. 22:6), and help them remember the Creator (Ecc. 12:1).

Finally, Mary was holy in knowledge. She was a mother who knew what the Scriptures taught about Abraham and the promise that was made toward him and his seed (Luke 1:54,55). "So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham . . . And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Gal. 3:9,29). Mary's understanding of this promise stands in bold contrast to many Jews who felt that being the literal descendants of Abraham was a guarantee of their right to enter Heaven (John 8:31-46). But, she became "the woman" of the first Messianic promise (Gen. 3:15) in the lineage of Christ. It was revealed to her that she would bring forth a son and call his name Jesus even though she had not known a man sexually (Luke 1:30-35). Her reaction was this: "And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). How did she know that God was faithful and able to perform the miraculous conception inside her body? The answer is that she was a woman who knew the Scriptures—that God was always true to His Word (Titus 1:2). She would serve God first, last, and always.

The world needs holy mothers like Mary today. One lady told of filling out a form in her pediatrician's office. Beside the blank marked "occupation" were these words: "If you devote the greater part of your time to loving, caring and making a home for your family, put a big star in this space." That is the role of a holy and godly mother. Putting the love and fear of God into her life and into the life of her children will surely help to produce humility, virtue, and knowledge in their lives. Thus, inspiring holiness for generations to come.



“HELP US MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION WHEN WE MAKE THE WRONG DECISION”

Barry Kennedy

These words are very special to me, because they are some of the words spoken in a morning prayer by my five year old son. I don't know that he truly grasped the impact that those words had on my heart, but immediately I began thinking about this article. Just what exactly is being said in this short but extremely profound statement?

First, man needs God's help. Prayer is such an awesome blessing. Just think, every child of God can at any time step confidently into the very throne room of the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. *“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”* (Hebrews 4:16). According to the Hebrew writer, in our prayers we have the opportunity to ask for God's help in our times of need. Of course, everyone has those pesky times of need because we all live in this sin filled world. James made it clear that trials are going to be a part of life. *“My brethren, count it all joy **when** (Emph mine BK) ye fall into divers temptations;”* (James 1:2). Notice now how the ESV translates James 1:2. *“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.”* Both are saying the same thing, which is, “Trouble is coming, what will be our attitude?” Without God's help how can one find joy in the trials of life? We need God's help to make the right decision when we make the wrong decision.

Second, we will make wrong decisions. Many “know” that God does not require them to be perfectly sinless in their lives, but the fact that man tends to be, more often than not, extreme in his thinking, causes many to give up when they cannot overcome the sins that so easily beset them (Hebrews 12:1). The simple truth is that man sins. If anyone is bold enough to make the statement that he has no sin, or does not sin just sinned because lying is a sin (Revelation 21:8). John emphasized this point clearly in scripture when he wrote, *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”* as well as, *“If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us”* (1John 1:8, 10). Anyone of accountability will fall to the temptations of Satan at some point in his or her lives. Succumbing to the temptations to sin is nothing more than making the wrong decision, proving the need for God's help in having the guilty stains of our wrong decision taken away. Only the blood of Christ has the power to wash away our guilty stains (Revelation 1:5). So we say again, “Help us make the right decisions **WHEN** we make the wrong decisions.”

Third, we can make the right decision. Notice the statement does not say, “Make the right decision for us.” Decisions are ours and ours alone. How can we make the right decisions? It is easy to see how so many make wrong decisions. Some fail to use wisdom, i.e. the ability to see where a particular course of action will lead. Many live for the moment, ignoring the future. The drunk did not take his first drink with the goal of becoming an alcoholic. The smoker did not take his first drag expecting to have lung cancer or emphysema. There are consequences for actions both good and bad. So again, how do we make the right decisions? Don't forget the first point, we need God's help. Understanding how God helps us will be the answer man needs to make wise decisions. God helps us ultimately, adequately, and effectively through His all inspired word (Psa.119:11, 105; Acts 20:32; 2Tim. 3:16, 17; 2Pet. 1:3). It would be silly to ask God for help without being willing to search the scriptures. God has done so much for man, and He is still willing to help with His divine providence, but we have to seek Him first (Mat. 6:33). Only then can we confidently say, “Help us make the right decisions when we make the wrong decisions.”