

Mama Mia!

Scripture: *Luke 1:46-55*

In honor of Mother's Day, we look at a C.H.A.R.T. of a mother's love through the story of Mary as Jesus' mother.

Concerned

A mother's interest in her children's well being is inherent, but it can sometimes be seen as intrusion as opposed to concern. Mothers tend to show this by insisting knowing details of their children's lives. This is something that not even Jesus was immune to as the son of Mary. When He was 12 years old, his parents accidentally left Him behind on their way back from the Passover festival in Jerusalem. Upon finding Jesus back at the temple, Mary says, "**Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You.**" Here, Mary shows concern for her son.

Humble

Even though Mary is tasked with the important role of bearing the future Messiah, her response is still one of humility. Luke 1:46-48 says, **And Mary said: "My soul should exalts the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has had regard for the humble state of His bonds slave; for behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.** In the verse, she calls herself a humble bonds slave, for she knows that she—also a sinner in need of salvation—is merely a vessel chosen to be used by God.

Available

When the angel of the Lord spoke to Mary to deliver God's plan to her, she responded with willingness; she made sure to make herself available. The knee-jerk response to being called by God can sometimes be unwillingness and uncertainty. However, Mary simply submitted herself to the plan of the Lord. She says in Luke 1:38, **Behold, the bonds slave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to Your Word.**

Reflective

Mary was a reflective mother. In fact, when the angel of the Lord called her the "favored one," **she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was,** according to Luke 1:29. She also demonstrated this characteristic when the shepherds went to see Jesus. In line with her humble spirit, she showed a tendency to quietly reflect upon the things that were happening to her. This is something we should learn to do, as the end result is that God gets the glory He deserves.

Teachable

During a wedding ceremony, they had run out of wine. Mary then turned to Jesus to imply that He should do something about it, but Jesus instead rebuked her and told her that it is not yet the right time for Him to begin His ministry of performing miracles. Event though He was abrupt with her, Mary learned and merely responded by telling the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them to. It would have been very easy for her to be arrogant, as she had previously been singled out by God.

Loved

Mary knew from the beginning that the child that she was bearing would eventually have to die for the good of mankind. Knowing this, she would have been better off detaching herself from her son; however, she decided to love Jesus, and He in turn loved her back. In their culture a widow and an orphan were the lowest of the low

because no one would take care of them. Some widows even resorted to prostitution to provide for themselves. Jesus did not allow this to happen to his own mother, whom he loved dearly. This was evident when Jesus tasked John with taking care of His mother after He dies. Even though He was facing death, He still thought of what would happen to Mary after He is gone.

This is a story of Mary, but this is also a testimony about Jesus, who would not have been brought into this earth if not for His mother. 1 John 5:11-13 says, ***And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.***

APPLICATION:

Patently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage's lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

	<p>Personal: What can we learn from the life of Mary? How can we apply C.H.A.R.T in our own lives?</p>
	<p>Family: Talk about Mary, talk about her attitude and disposition as a mother. This is also a good time to appreciate our own mothers, and the mother of our children.</p>
	<p>Discipleship: Discuss with your discipleship group how you can intentionally practice C.H.A.R.T. in your walk as followers of Jesus.</p>
	<p>Church/ Ministry: In the light of all that is happening in the world today, how am I actively and intentionally sharing the gospel to those who are around me?</p>

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.