

Theme for 2021

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT; WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD!

‘They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love.’

“I have commissioned them to represent me just as you commissioned me to represent you. And now I dedicate myself to them as a holy sacrifice so that they will live as fully dedicated to God and be made holy by your truth.” “And I ask not only for these disciples, but also for all those who will one day believe in me through their message. I pray for them all to be joined together as one even as you and I, Father, are joined together as one. I pray for them to become one with us so that the world will recognize that you sent me. For the very glory you have given to me I have given them so that they will be joined together as one and experience the same unity that we enjoy. You live fully in me and now I live fully in them so that they will experience perfect unity, and the world will be convinced that you have sent me, for they will see that you love each one of them with the same passionate love that you have for me.”

John 17:18-23 The Passion Translation (TPT)



This Week’s Thought – May 9, 2021

Happy Mother’s Day!

“Then Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up. “There’s a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?”” **John 6:8-9, New Living Translation (NLT)**

“We’re ALL in this TOGETHER.” Jesus is the hero in the story of feeding the 5,000. Our Lord takes a generous boy’s modest lunch of bread and fish and performs a miracle. The unnamed lad is certainly willing to share what he has with Jesus and trust Him to multiply what he gave with no expectations attached. But, he (the young boy) had help being able to help. Who do you think prepared the young boy’s lunch? Probably his caring mother who had no idea that the routine way she loved her son would be used by God to bless several thousand people. She did her part to love her child in the little things, selflessly caring for the needs of one.

As a mom do you sometimes feel invisible, unimportant? Does it seem like your acts of kindness go unnoticed, with only reoccurring demands to be served? From time to time this feeling may steal your joy and maybe even feed some anger, bitterness and resentment.

Or, you may be drowning with more expectations from your family than you have the capacity to fulfill. If so, pause in prayer, ask the Spirit to renew your spirit and fill your heart with humble gratitude for God’s love and comfort. Reassess what you need. Ask for help. Do less and trust God to do more. He loves you and He will take what you give Him and multiply your efforts. Caring moms need extra care.

Exhaustion is the enemy of intimacy. Only as you care for yourself do you have a healthy self to give away. The flight attendants have it correct: ‘you must put the oxygen on yourself first’, to be able to care for your children and family. What gives you life? A quiet room? An engaging book? Sitting on the porch alone? A walk outside? Etc.? The treadmill of not taking time for yourself only leads to exhaustion, anxiety and a drowning sensation. Take hold of the life preserver of God’s love and the love of others to rest in Christ’s peace and joy.

For anyone reading this devotion, you may know a mom who silently, selflessly serves but is screaming on the inside in need of help. Perhaps you show up and offer to take care of her children, so she can refresh herself by doing nothing or something she wants to do. Moms who care for others need care. Care from their Heavenly Father, family and friends.

“As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but instead we were like children among you. Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children.” (1 Thessalonians 2:7, NLT)

Application: Who do you know who is exhausted by her care for others? How can you offer help? Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into the places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish. Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Compassion requires us to be weak with the weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless. Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human. In this case, of being a mom.

Prayer of reflection and response you might pray this week: “Heavenly Father, on this Mother’s Day, we thank You for our mothers through whom Your gift of life begins and through whom we are nurtured into great human beings. We lift up all mothers to Your love and care. We pray for them, for their needs of strength and support to continue to nurture a family of love, in honor and love for You, our God. Extend Your Hands of grace over them. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate Name of Jesus, Amen!”

Yours in Christ, Pastor King