

Motherhood and the Mission of God



Sermon Goal

That the women and mothers of Mercy Hill would be held in high regard in light of their high calling by God.



Sermon Text

Various

→ “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth... (Gen 1:27–28a).



Big Idea

Motherhood is vital to the mission of God in both creation and redemption.

(1) Motherhood Is in God’s Image

Motherhood is a high calling, a profound privilege, and a bright glory. This is particularly because motherhood is in God’s image. Motherhood images God’s: (1) Tri-Unity, (2) Creativity, and (3) Charity.

(2) Motherhood Is through God’s Son

Eve failed to image God in the way outlined above. But upon the marring of God’s image in the fall, God immediately sets out upon its renewal, and He’s going to do it within the context of Motherhood (Gen 3:15). Motherhood, after the fall, then, is only properly understood in light of the Redeemer.

It’s interesting that, as we follow this Promised Seed, the whole of His redemptive work can actually be understood through the lens of Motherhood: (1) The promised Child, the Christ, is born to a mother (Luk 1-2); (2) Christ longs for Israel like a mother (Luke 13:34); (3) Christ groans in labor pains like a mother (John 16:21); (4) Christ gives birth like a mother (John 3:3). Christ redeems motherhood by doing the work of a mother Himself!

Before you can be the mother God’s created you to be, you must first be the daughter God’s redeemed you to be. Because of the Promised Offspring, God’s Son, and His work on the cross, though you are not a perfect mommy, though you are still dealing with the sins of your flesh—His name over you is not Death, but Life! O mother, if you have repented and trusted in God’s Son, then you are united to God’s Son by His Spirit. And if you are united to God’s Son by His Spirit, then you are God’s daughter. And if you are God’s daughter, then life not death will have the last word over you, grace not condemnation will prevail. Your name, because of Jesus, is Life!

(3) Motherhood Is on God’s Mission

The commission given to Adam and Eve—that they be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth with God’s glorious image—could originally be fulfilled through procreation alone. But after the fall, what was once achievable through mere procreation now can only be achieved through conversion. We give birth to children in need of being born again. Mothers play a vital role not only in procreation but in conversion, and, consequently, in the mission of God.



Critical Action

May all the women in this church, in one way or another, fulfill their high calling to motherhood to the glory of God! Happy Mother’s Day!



Reflection Questions

- How is motherhood dignified by being in God’s image? Do you see motherhood in this way? How has the world, flesh, and Devil crept in and corrupted your perspective on it?
- Mothers, what does a “mother’s guilt” look like in your life? How does seeing motherhood through the God’s Son change that? How also is Fatherhood through God’s Son?
- What name do you take to yourself: Death or Life? Why? Are you fundamentally a sinner or a saint? Explain.