

A MODEL FOR TODAY'S MOTHERS

Luke 1:26-35; 46-56

Introduction: We are constantly looking for heroes and models to imitate from real life and in history and even from the Bible.

Because Catholics have exalted Mary to Godhood and even worship her, most non-catholic faiths have tended to neglect mentioning Mary except perhaps at Christmas time. However, that ought not be. Let us take a look at Mary as a model for today's mothers. Let us look at her faith and faithfulness. What did she have and do that contributed to her success as a mother?

I. GOD CHOSE MARY FROM ALL JEWISH WOMEN FOR A VERY IMPORTANT MISSION

1. Mary was a devoted worshipper of God and was familiar with the Scriptures.
2. She was pure in heart, mind and body.
3. Mary was obedient to what she knew about God and kept His laws.
4. She was humble and felt very unworthy of His attention.
5. Mary was willing to do whatever God wanted her to do, she was very submissive.
6. Mary had an attitude of gratitude, thankfulness, for God permitting her to be a part of His wonderful plan.
7. Mary's life was one of consistence and self-control, unlike most her age.
- What mother of today does not need all these traits?

II. MARY WAS CHOSEN AS A MODEL, OR EXAMPLE

1. Mary responded positively to God's gracious plan for HER life (unlike Moses).
2. Mary magnified the Lord in song for His goodness and graciousness of including her in His mighty plans.
3. Mary worshipped the mighty God of Israel. She knew He was little God or weakling. He was God of creation, of Israel, the redeeming God, the God on the throne, and she responded to His authority.
4. Mary worshipped the merciful God. She remembered the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and of her forefathers and all His forgiveness and mercies.

III. MARY SUFFERED THE PAINS OF BEING A MOTHER

1. Mary suffered through childbirth in a stable, unattended except by Joseph.
2. When Jesus was 12 years old, Mary found it difficult to understand her son.
3. Later in life, the rest of the family resented Jesus and did not accept His claims of being the Messiah until after His resurrection.
4. Mary experienced great pain when her Son was rejected by His own townspeople and countrymen.
5. She suffered horrible humiliation of seeing her son arrested, falsely accused, convicted, condemned and crucified as if He were a common criminal.

IV. MARY WORSHIPPED A RISEN AND RULING SAVIOR

1. Mary remembered the angels' first words and now she realized the full meaning. She accepted her own Son as her Lord and Savior.

CONCLUSION:

1. Mary's life was one of great faith.
2. Mary's heart was in tune with God's heart continually.
3. Indeed, Mary is a wonderful model and example for today's Mothers.