

**Crossville Church
of Christ**

P.O. Box 211

Crossville, TN 38557

Phone

484-5297 or 484-2960

Fax 707-0025

Bible Call

707-5523 or 707-5532

Elders:

Frank Bohannon

Eddie Brown

Bill Foland

Al Griffin

Jonathan Loveday

Larry McDuffee

Clyde Randolph

Deacons:

Jim Bell

Kyle Fairman

Jimmy Harris

David Kerley

Doug Loveday

Greg Maxwell

Brian McLaughlin

Mark Roberts

Roger Smith

Jon Tatum

Jason Wyatt

Jerry Wood

Minister:

Barry Kennedy

Missionaries:

Don Iverson

Jim Waldron

(India)

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**

www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org

Email: mainstchurch@volfirst.net

crossville_elders@volfirst.net



May 8, 2011



**“Her children arise up, and
call her blessed; her husband
also, and he praiseth her”
(Proverbs 30:28).**

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.



THE YOUNG MOTHER

Author Unknown

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is this the long way?" she asked. And the guide said: "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy, and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children, and gathered flowers for them along the way, and bathed them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them, and the young Mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then the night came, and the storm, and the path was dark, and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle, and the children said, "Mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come." And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead, and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary. But at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed, and when they reached the top they said, "Mother, we would not have done it without you." And the mother, when she lay down at night looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage. Today I have given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth, clouds of war and hate and evil, and the children groped and stumbled, and the mother said: "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds an everlasting glory, and it guided them beyond the darkness. And that night the Mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

And the days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong, and walked with courage. And when the way was rough, they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather; and at last they came to a hill, and beyond they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide. And mother said: "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said: "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A Mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a living presence."

Your Mother is always with you. She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street, she's the smell of bleach in your freshly laundered socks, she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not well. Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every tear drop. She's the place you came from, your first home; And she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love and your first heartbreak, and nothing on earth can separate you - Not time, not space - Not even death!

