**North Christian Church**

**~ In 2020, Looking to See a Perfect Vision of God’s Perfect Plan ~**

***“Where there is no vision, the people perish…”* - Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)**

**In May: Mountain – Top Views**

**“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!” – Isaiah 52: 7**

**Today: A TRIBUTE TO MOM, MOTHERS, MOTHERHOOD**

**“His Mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever He tells you.’” – John 2:5**

**This month of May, we are getting views from the Mountain tops…the mountain tops that are recorded in the Bible. Seeing life and God’s will from His mountain top is both helpful, hopeful, and more factual.**

**But today, we are taking this very special time to see, recognize, and honor our Moms, all Mothers in General, and the Institution of Motherhood as a stable building block of our society. Happy Mother’s Day to everyone who can hear these words we speak because we all have one thing in common today…we all have or have had a mother! (Biological mother, foster mother, surrogate mother, step-mother, or other mother!) Today, we honor all mothers! So, let’s begin…**

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1. **First, Let’s pause to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ mothers…dear old Mom. The writer of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ describes for us a perfect Mom.**

**Proverbs 31: 25-30 – She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.
26She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. 27She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 29“Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.” 30Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.**

1. **Now your mother may be like this one in Proverbs 31, or maybe not. Either way, as much as you can, take a moment and remember your own mother or an important mother figure in your life. How did they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you? What did they \_\_\_\_ for you? What did they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you?**

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1. **For example, my mother is actually the main \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the theme for this whole month… Mountain top views! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **So, what did my Mother do for us? Practically everything! Mom was a typical caring, hard-working, loving, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mom, and still is today at 91!**

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1. **In remembering and honoring my dear 91-year old mother today who lives in Vincennes, our hometown, I recall the virtues and values that she and my Dad taught us as we were growing up. They taught us not to be afraid of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They were the hardest workers I’ve ever known, and they tried to instill in us a strong work ethic, too. Mom taught us to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. And, she taught us to pray, read our Bibles, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our elders.**

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1. **I thank God today for my mother, and the way she raised us four kids. We never had much money growing up, but we were blessed with great parents. Like President Abraham Lincoln, who himself had a great mother, once said – “He who has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mother is never poor.”**

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1. **Second, let’s take a brief look at the role Mothers have in our society. Let’s just call this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Ex. 20:12 – Honor your father and your mother, so you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.**

1. **In the fifth commandment, we are told to honor our mothers (and fathers) so that we will live long in the land. Did you ever wonder what that means? It means that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your parents has a direct connection and influence on how well our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ go.**

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1. **Now, on the other side of this…when we don’t honor motherhood or when we downplay the importance of motherhood, our society will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for it, and may even be destroyed!**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Motherhood is one of the building blocks of a strong \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

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1. **Now over the past 100 years, we have seen so many things invented that do the work that mothers used to do. We have machines that wash clothes, iron clothes, and wash and dry the dishes. We have gadgets that cook the food and clean the floor all by itself. We have all kinds of cooking techniques to help in the kitchen and entertainment devices to help raise the kids. But…having said all of that, there is no replacement for Mom. Mom is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

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1. **M - is for the million things she gave me. O - means that I owe here all I own. T - is for the tears she shed to save me. H - is for her heart of purest gold. E - Means everything she’s done to help me. R - means right and right she’ll always be. Put them all together they spell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A word that means the world to me. …Yep…Motherhood is a must…for all the rest of us!**

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1. **Third, let’s look at famous Mothers in history. They have made a difference in the world, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

**Genesis 3: 20 – Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the first mother in history, so we mention her first. It’s especially important that we recognize Eve as the mother of all mankind, because that is what the Bible says, and so it is true.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **The next great mother in history is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. She is important in history because she actually chose her mother-in-law, Naomi, as her adopted mother. So, Naomi was the surrogate mother of Ruth is important also because she became the mother of Obed, who was the grandfather of King David - the greatest king in Old Testament Jewish history.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Next, let’s look at important mothers in our nation. Just like there are Founding Fathers of our country, there are also \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

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1. **Next, we will just mention a few other outstanding mothers in history…who have had an impact on the world. I love history, so please bear with me. There is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who was the mother of John and Charles Wesley.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **One more mother in history would be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Calcutta. She started the Missionaries of Charity to look after abandoned babies and the poorest of the poor.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Now, I’m sure that you can remember other Mothers who have made an impact on society or in the world. We have just mentioned a few today. The point we’re making is that mothers have a crucial role to play in the world…probably the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

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1. **Our last observation of Mothers today is that of one Mother in particular. We have looked at Mothers of History, Motherhood in Society, and even our own Mothers…but we would be wrong not to mention and look at one more Mother on this Mother’s Day of 2020. We are talking about the Mother of Jesus. Her name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the most amazing Mother of all.**

**Luke 1: 30-31 – But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.**

1. **Mary is quite an exclusive story in the Bible and in the world. She is the most amazing Mother of all, for three main reasons. First, she was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and yet she became a Mother.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **That is the second reason Mary is so important. She is the Mother of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. That alone is enough!**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **The last reason that Mary is such an important Mother for us today, is that we see where Jesus, Himself, did what she asked Him to do. She had Motherly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in His life. She’s always right! Just ask Jesus…He listened to His mother, and so should we!**

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1. **But Mary’s influence in this passage doesn’t stop there. Look at what she says to the servants in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_. She says, “Do whatever He tells you.” These words of Mary are so important to realize and remember today.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **My Friends, we would do well to follow Mother Mary’s example to all of us today. Let’s pray for Jesus to go ahead and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and then let’s be sure that we are following His instructions by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Will.**

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1. **Final words of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about Mothers. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **We all agree, without our Moms, we would be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…and not even here. Thanks Mom, for having me! Say a prayer of thanks or make a call to thank her.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Motherhood needs to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at all costs. We cannot lose this great institution in our society. Let’s pray for our Mothers to be strong, stay the course, and keep using God’s gifts for our children, our families, homes, and the world. If we lose motherhood, we lose our nation and world.**

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1. **And last but not least, let’s all see Mary today as a Mother who influences and instructs all of us.**

**She is looking to Jesus to show His power. So, should we! And she is telling others to follow His Word. So, should we. …Aren’t Moms amazing!?! Let’s pray.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**