

Introduction:

- Happy Mother's Day Moms!
- Review
 - Prepare, Expect, Suddenly. Jesus did this the last 40 days on earth with His disciples.
 - There is a Holy Spirit and you need Him. A look at why we need Holy Spirit.
 - What Does This Mean? What did the events of Acts 2:1-3 mean?
- I am still going to teach on the Holy Spirit this morning but I am going to give it a 'mom' angle.
- Let us look at a famous mom in scripture and see what we can learn about the Holy Spirit in her life. That mother is none other than Mary, the Mother of Jesus.
- Mary was not different than us. In fact, think on this: James 5:17 says, "*Elijah was human like we are...*"; so was Mary.

I. Mary And The Activity of Holy Spirit

- A. Her first visitation from God is found in the Christmas story. The angel Gabriel.
1. "*And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God."* (Luke 1:34-35, ESV)
 - a) The Holy Spirit will come upon you...Presence
 - b) And the power of the most high will overshadow you....Power
 - c) This sounds like Holy Spirit...Presence and Power. Just what Jesus said they would receive in Acts 1:8. When Holy Spirit comes, he comes in power whether He is in you or on you!
 2. We are not told of her relationship with the Holy Spirit prior to this. I personally believe this is all new to her, though she would be familiar with the Holy Spirit from the writings of Moses and the prophets. After all, she did in faith say, "*Let it be unto me according to your Word.*" She was not afraid of the Holy Spirit. If you are afraid of the Holy Spirit you will not receive Him, for we receive Him by faith. Faith and fear are polar opposites.
- B. The angel says the Holy Spirit will "come upon you" - Gr. ἐπελευσεται - from root erchomai. "*to cause a shadow by interposing something between an object and a source of light—to cast a shadow upon.*" Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 176). New York: United Bible Societies.
1. The Holy Spirit is standing between Mary and her heavenly Father. He is not entering her. He is not touching her. He is 'THERE' and that is enough!
 - a) That is so like the Holy Spirit. His presence is enough to get the job done. It was the Holy Spirit in Peter that caused his shadow to heal.
 - b) When you have the presence, the power is there "to do" what the Father has commissioned. IE. Dream: Holy Spirit Falls.
 - c) The Holy Spirit 'will come upon you' reminds me of Jesus' word to His disciples, "*But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.* (Jn 14:17 NLT).
 - d) 1 Sam 10:10 The Spirit of God came upon Saul and he prophesied like the prophets.

- e) Mary would know the Holy Spirit with her, but later would know Holy Spirit as in her!
- 2. God often works with us this way. He comes to us, upon us; all with the goal of being in us, with power.
 - a) Prevenient grace - we are not saved but Holy Spirit visits us in our lost state and begins to prepare our hearts for the entrance of the Word. This is what makes grace so amazing! He brings conviction and points to Jesus.
 - b) I knew He was with me as a believer long before I knew He (Holy Spirit) was in me.
- C. The Holy Spirit is the source or provision of the miracle.
 - 1. *"... When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together **she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.**" (Matthew 1:18, ESV) "But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for **that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**" (Matthew 1:20, ESV) 'Ek', a preposition that means the source of. "By means of, or from" Mary was pregnant with Jesus by the miraculous presence of the Holy Spirit upon her life.*
 - 2. Some manifestations of God on our lives before salvation.
 - a) Heat - Holy Spirit on you.
 - b) Heart racing - Holy Spirit on you.
 - c) Trembling - Holy Spirit on you.
 - d) Conviction - Holy Spirit on you.
 - e) These same manifestations occur in the Spirit filled believers life when God is leading us into the place of holiness.
- D. Joseph and Mary both experienced getting prophetic words by the Spirit.
 - 1. Simeon - old man prophesies over Jesus when Joseph and Mary bring him into the temple. Simeon was hearing by the Spirit.
 - a) *"For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God." (1 Corinthians 2:11-12, ESV) Simeon was understanding by the Spirit. Sharing by the Spirit.*
 - b) Joseph and Mary were hearing a word from God through the old man Simeon. Again, Mary's life is being touched by the Holy Spirit.
 - c) I want you to see the activity of Holy Spirit in her life. And see how normal it was for God to pursue His children. All of us!
 - 2. Anna the prophetess Luke 2:38 does the same thing and prophesy's over Jesus.
- E. Mary and the upper room.
 - 1. Mary followed her Son's instruction. Returned to Jerusalem, entered the upper room, and devoted herself to prayer like the rest.
 - 2. *"All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers." (Acts 1:14, ESV)*

3. It does not say specifically that Mary was baptized with the Holy Spirit, but I can't imagine anything different for the one who lived so close to the Son of God!
 4. We do not hear any more about Mary after Acts 1:14.
- F. Summary: Mary lived within the realm of the Spirit as a virgin, as a mom, a grieving mom, and a mom who is a child of the Son of God. Her journey was one from knowing about, knowing, and walking with the Holy Spirit. How do you do that?

II. How To Relate To Holy Spirit

- A. I think one of the first things that Mary learned is that the Holy Spirit is a person. When God showed up in the flesh, Mary learned that God was a person, especially as Jesus got older. Mary learned how to relate to God. I.e. Wedding of Cana. Maybe this thought might help you too. Much of developing a relationship with the Holy Spirit is 'on the job training.' Kind of like a marriage—you get married and you begin to really learn about how to relate to the person you are in covenant with.
1. When the Holy Spirit showed up and 'came upon Mary', Mary learned that Holy Spirit is a person. He is not an it, he is not a power. He is a person. Much of our relationship with Him comes from discoveries we make in walking with Him. It is how we learn about each other. We walk together.
 2. If He is a person we must learn to hear His voice.
 - a) Certain thoughts come and stand out to us.
 - b) He has emotions so we are made to feel what He feels. *"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God..."* Eph 4:30
 - (1) Grieve - λυπεται - to cause pain as in sorrow. It is what is felt in a relationship when one is betrayed. TDNT Kittle. It's opposite is joy (χαρα).
 - (2) Eph 4:28-31 gives us a list of things that cause pain to Holy Spirit: stealing, corrupt talk, bitterness, wrath, anger, slander, malice, indignation, quarreling, spite, and resentment. These things grieve Him and make Him feel far away.
 3. Because He is a person we must move from hiding from Him to hosting His presence in our lives.
 - a) I love Bill Johnson illustration of Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus like a dove. Doves are nervous birds and if one was sitting on your shoulder you would have to walk gently.
 - b) He waits to be wanted, longs to be welcomed. He needs to be hosted. Many people invite the Holy Spirit, but few know how to host Him.
 - c) If you want to walk with Holy Spirit then talk with Holy Spirit. When you fellowship with the Holy Spirit, start with the awareness that He is with you, then turn attention to Him and then lift your hearts with affection towards Him.
- B. Obedience is a must. Mary learned that obedience was necessary to have a relationship with Holy Spirit.
1. Your relationship with Holy Spirit cannot go any higher or deeper than your obedience.
 2. Obedience at times seems risky to us. It seems it will cost too much...to our flesh.

3. Mary learned to take the risk of obedience and receive the reward of relationship.
 4. If you take no risk, you receive no reward, and get no relationship!
 5. We are talking about how to develop a relationship with Holy Spirit: realize He is a person –(talk to Him), realize obedience affects your relationship. Third...
- C. When you do make a mistake...let's just call it what it is: SIN. Confess it and get back into relationship with Him. 1 Jn 1:9. God never cancels meetings with us! IE. God showed up for their meeting before Adam did after he had sinned. If God shows up then we need to show up.
1. I am sure Mary had to do that a few time. After all, Jesus had five brothers and (number of unknown) sisters. Can you imagine being the sibling of 'the One who does no wrong!' Yes, Mary had her 'off' days to.
 2. He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin! He is passionate towards us. Never forget that.
- D. Listen to messages, read books, that teach and speak about Holy Spirit. IE. I regularly read Smith Wigglesworth and John G. Lake sermons and messages.
- E. The last is one that very few think of when it comes to developing our relationship with the Holy Spirit–BE A WITNESS! This was the purpose of the giving of Holy Spirit. Jesus was sent by the Father to purchase redemption. Holy Spirit was sent that we would be witnesses with power to reach the lost. Acts is all about the Gospel going forth into the world by the church as witnesses.
1. Tongues was not mentioned in Acts 1:8! It we stop at tongues we limit the power of the Holy Spirit.
 2. Ezekiel 47, Ezekiel saw a river flow from the throne of God. The further it went into the dark and among the dead the deeper and wider it became...and everything it touched lived!

Conclusion:

- Mary knew the Holy Spirit! It started with the Word of God and her obedience.
- She recognized Holy Spirit activity in her life.
- The Holy Spirit became her anchor when Jesus returned to the Father.

Other ways to know Holy Spirit as:

- Counselor–always go to God first for counsel and let Him speak to you His way, through the people or things He chooses.
- Advocate–He pleads our case when we're in trouble.
- Intercessor–He prays for us and through us when we don't know how to pray on our own.
- Standby–He stands by us, ready to act on our behalf when we need something.
- Strengtheners–He gives us God's grace to do whatever we need to do in every situation.