

## OUR LORD'S MOTHER

Selected scriptures

### Introduction

Luke 1:28

I. Mary Teaches Us the Submission of Motherhood – Luke 1:38, Proverbs 31:27-28,30

II. Mary Teaches Us the Support of Motherhood – Luke 1:41-45

III. Mary Teaches Us the Surprise of Motherhood – Luke 1:29, Luke 2:18-19, Luke 2:33, Luke 2:48

IV. Mary Teaches Us the Suffering of Motherhood – Luke 2:34-35, 3 John 4, John 19:26-27, Luke 1:46-47

### Conclusion

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

### Getting Started

1. When you think about your mother, what qualities do you admire about her?  
Which of her qualities do you most want to emulate? *It goes without saying that some people's primary mother figure is someone other than their mother for one reason or another. If you already know that to be true for someone in your group, make space for that. Ultimately, this is meant to be a good time of remembrance and appreciation. Have fun, tell stories, and remember well.*
  
2. What were some of the ways your mother revealed her love and devotion for you and the rest of your family?

### Going Deeper

1. Luke describes Mary as the "highly favored one" and called her "blessed among women." Read Luke 1:26-56 and then list the qualities of Mary. *This is how the Bible remembers Mary - this is her legacy, her reputation. She is truly unparalleled.*

2. Pastor Jeremiah spoke of Mary as a shining example of submission. What exactly does it mean to be in submission to someone else? **We discussed this at length in our lesson on Ephesians 6 - reviewing these notes may help! Bonus: What are the perceived disadvantages of submission? What are some benefits of submitting to authority?**
3. Perhaps better than most, Jesus's mother, Mary, knew the unexpected upheavals of motherhood. She was visited by angels, shepherds, kings, and prophets. She mothered the Son of God. Read Luke 1:29, 2:18-19, 2:33, and 2:48. What was the overarching theme of her response? How would *you* have responded? **Each of these verses uses a word like *wonder* or *marvel*. Likely most of Mary's life was lived in that sense of wonder.**
4. Motherhood is a beautiful blessing that (like much of life) is not without its difficulties. How does having a support system help in tough seasons? If you are a parent, talk about the support you rely on when you need it.

5. Read Luke 3:34-35. For Mary, her exalted role as the mother of the Messiah was always destined to be woven with suffering. Now, read Luke 1:38. How did her “let it be” attitude carry her through this? *Mary’s life was quite a roller-coaster, and this submissive stance allowed her to hold loosely to this life and hold fast to His plan. It also allowed her to see herself as playing a single role in a much, much bigger story.*

### Applying the Message

1. Mary submitted her life to serve the purpose that God called her to. How can you mirror this attitude in your life? What are some areas of your life that you need to place under God’s control? *This can be absolutely anything. From the specific (career path, handling of money, choices in life, health, etc.) to the general (hope, future, success, etc.). This can be a work-the-circle question or one with a lot of discussion - feel free to allow for the conversation to flow as needed.*
2. One of the final things Jesus does on the cross is display His great love for His mother. If it is still possible, how can you display great love for your mother in the next week or so? If it’s not possible, how can you show love, respect, or honor to a mother you know? *In the worst and most painful moment on the cross, Jesus worried for His mom and asked John to look after her as his own. What a sweet love He had for Mary. How can we emulate this love this week?*