

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith. We are here to give you truth, facts, tools and point out that every choice, every belief, and every action you make is tied to an outcome in your life. You can't do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church. Or for more information, stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium**.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the seat back in front of you. Place your prayer request in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary. You can also send a prayer request using this form: [Prayer Request - Foothills Church](#). The staff and volunteers pray over these weekly.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- MomCo - [Foothills MomCo - Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Small Groups - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Bible Recap: Read through the Bible in a Year ([Linda Kraft - The Bible Recap - Foothills Church](#)) Join any time . . .
- Vacation Bible School – June 23-26
 - [Volunteer Registration](#)
 - [Child Registration](#)
- [Small Group Leaders' Training & Lunch](#) – May 18, 12:30-1:30, Chapel
- KidMin Volunteers needed – Contact Pastor Steve Botsford at steve@foothills.org

Interim Pastor Trent Renner - MOTHER'S DAY MESSAGE**BIBLICAL MOMS . . . and the meaning of Hebrew words "Strong Water" & "Helpmate"**

The Bible contains many famous stories of strong men like Sampson, King David, Joshua, and Moses. What is the one thing all these men have in common? MOMS! So many MOMS of the Bible...Holy Heroes. God accomplished so many marvelous things through the hands and feet of women and moms... So much so...



It is said that Mother's Day is when the least amount of crime is committed in the USA. I think that says a lot about how many moms are out there committing crimes but can't that day because they're at brunch with their kids!

When something needs to be done, who do we call?

- Who knows how to save money and find good deals?
- Who can creatively reframe an unwanted birthday gift into an amazing regift?
- Who do most people thank during an award ceremony?

Let's check out some inspirational MOMs recorded in the Bible.

MARY - Trusted God Despite Uncertainty

The most famous mother in the entire Bible, Mary is a young woman of humble means living with her family in a small town in Israel. After a visit from the angel Gabriel telling her that she will miraculously give birth to a son (the future Messiah, Jesus), Mary's response is "*I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you've said happen to me*" (Luke 1:38).

This simple and profound statement speaks volumes about Mary's faith in God. And while her life as the mother of Jesus could not have been easy, it must have been a life of faithfulness to God and trust that He would care for her every step of the way.

- Mary's life shows us that we can trust God in all of life's unknowns

SARAH - Persevered in the Face of Infertility

Sarah was the wife of Abraham from the Old Testament. Her husband was promised by God to be "*the father of a multitude of nations*." (Genesis 17:5), yet at the age of 90 she was still without children. Even

past her child-bearing years, God's promise stood that she would be the mother of His chosen people. Although she was extremely skeptical and even laughed at the idea of having a child in her old age, God reminded her of his power by saying, *"Is anything too hard for the Lord?"* (**Genesis 18:13**)

Sarah did indeed conceive and give birth to a son, Isaac, when she was 90 years old – in God's perfect timing.

- **We can learn from Sarah that God is a God of wonders and He keeps His promises**

EVE - the First Mother of All Mankind and NOT a good HELPMATE

It's hard to talk about mothers of the Bible and not mention the very first mother, Eve. Eve was the first woman, the first wife, and sadly the first to be tempted by Satan, thus making her one of the most infamous women of the Bible.

Eve knew the boundaries God had given her in Genesis which states, *"You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden – except the tree of knowledge of good and evil..."* (**Genesis 2:16-17**), but she allowed herself to develop false beliefs about God and she trusted in her own self-reliance. **This sin caused her to have to leave the Garden of Eden and also infected all her family. As a mother, Eve's two sons Cain and Abel are the first recorded murder story in the Bible.**

- **Helpmate**

HANNAH - a Patient Mom

Hannah's story (1 Samuel) in the Old Testament is one of patience and trusting God while struggling with infertility. Hannah pleaded with God to give her a child and promised to dedicate the child back to the Lord if He answered her prayers. God faithfully heard Hannah and gave her a son whom she named Samuel. Samuel later became a powerful prophet and helped unite the kingdom of Israel under King Saul.

- **Hannah's historical record is a beautiful example of how to lay your fears, insecurities, and burdens at God's feet. He hears our cries and knows our pain. The Lord is faithful to give hope and joy in all seasons of motherhood**

ELIZABETH - an Encouraging Mom

Elizabeth is another woman who has struggled with the pain of infertility. According to the book of Luke, God sent an angel to Elizabeth's husband Zechariah while he was performing his priestly duties and declared that Elizabeth, even in her old age, would give birth to a son. This boy will be called John (later known as **John the Baptist**) and he would prepare the way of the Lord and even baptize Jesus the Messiah.

Elizabeth is known for her friendship with another mother who had a miraculous conception story – her cousin Mary, the mother of Jesus.

- **We can learn from Elizabeth about how to be a true friend to moms who are going through challenging times and encourage them to remain faithful to God**

NAOMI - a Kind Mother-in-Law

Naomi's life is a wonderful **example of the power of a mother-in-law** (or a spiritual mother) in someone's life. When her husband and two sons died while living abroad, Naomi decides to return to her homeland and live out her days as a bitter and poor widow. What she didn't expect was her daughter-in-law Ruth to remain faithful and loyal by her side, refusing to go back to her own biological family. Naomi decided to use this beautiful act of love to place Ruth in favorable scenarios where her devotion and kindness were on display for all to see.

- **Naomi's actions help Ruth marry a generous and respected man, Boaz, and Naomi sees God's redemption from bitterness to joy in her life**

JOCHEBED - a Courageous Mom

The name may not be familiar, but her son's name is. Born as a Hebrew slave in Egypt, Jochebed lived during a time when the Pharaoh ordered all baby boys drowned in the Nile River. Rather than obey Pharaoh, Jochebed hid her son for as long as she could, then crafted a basket and gently placed him in it among the reeds in the riverbank. By God's grace and plan, Pharaoh's daughter saw the baby in the basket and had pity on him. She decided to raise the child as her own and was given the name of a wet nurse, Jochebed, who could feed and raise her son until he was older. And when the child was found among the reeds, the Pharaoh's daughter named him **Moses**, the future deliverer of the Hebrew people out of Egypt.

- **Jochebed's life teaches us that when we seek to honor God, He will faithfully provide all we need**
- **DRAW STRONG WATER. (M.O.M. "Mother of Mayhem")**

LOIS and EUNICE - a Teaching Mom and Grandma

Lois and Eunice are briefly mentioned in the New Testament book of 1 Timothy, but their legacy has lived on for generations. Their **son and grandson**, respectively, was **Timothy**, a pastor under the mentorship of the apostle Paul. Timothy is known for his faith and devotion to Christ and his love for the church, something directly taught to him by his mom and grandmother.

- **Lois and Eunice show us the impact of teaching our children (and grandchildren) the Christian faith. We can influence future generations for the better by investing in our kids and grandchildren today.**

RUTH - a Mother of Integrity

Ruth is truly a unique story in the Bible because she did not grow up in the Jewish culture. She was an outsider who showed incredible integrity and loyalty to her mother-in-law Naomi and future husband Boaz. Her son Obed would continue Ruth's legacy and become the grandfather to King David a man known for his fierce love and loyalty to his people and God...who continued the lineage and bloodline right up to Jesus the Messiah.

- **Single ladies...marry a BOAZ...but be careful...he has brothers...**

SO, THANK YOU to the Moms...

Who raised us, gave us love, and made us strong.

For the praying mom who doesn't always know what to do but always knows Who to talk to.

For the hurting mom who loved and lost but never gave up.

For those who never got called mom but cared for us like a mom would.

For the young mom who became a mom sooner than expected and gave it all she had.

For the single mom who tirelessly and courageously learned how to do it on her own.

For the stepmoms and stand-in moms who rose to the occasion and loved so well.

For the moms who pointed us to Jesus and showed us Jesus.

For the working mom, the stay-at-home mom, the cooking mom, and the take-out mom, thank you for teaching us how to walk, how to learn, and how to make a difference.

For taking care of us when you barely had time to take care of yourself.

For comforting us when we felt alone and afraid, for lifting us up when others put us down. The rides, the meals, the laundry, and the birthday parties. For the years, tears, laughter, and love...

It's not enough... but we want to say THANK YOU. Thank you for doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

We love you, we honor you, and we celebrate you today.

Happy Mother's Day!