MOTHERS, THE BEST IMAGE BEARERS OF GOD (Matthew 20:20-28)

We are created in the image of God to reflect God's glory, beauty and purpose. Mothers seem to carry and reflect the image of God better than anyone else we know.

We are often careful about using too many feminine images of God. The Bible, though written in a strongly patriarchal society is not ashamed or afraid to use feminine images of God,

Isaiah 44:14 "...but now, like a woman in childbirth, I [God] cry out, I gasp and pant."

Isaiah 66:13 "As a mother comforts her child, so will I [God] comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem."

Isaiah 49:15. "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I [God] will not forget you!"

The Mother of Zebedee's Sons

This woman reflects God's image in powerful ways. She is a jealous mother, out to get the best for her sons. God is a jealous God who wants the best for us and from us.

She kneels before Jesus. It was absurd for any self-respecting and devout Jew to kneel before a mere human because they feared the sin of idolatry more than any other sin. But this woman knew who Jesus was and therefore she kneels in public. Her prayer to Jesus for her sons was almost exorbitant. But this is a mother's faith, a mother's jealousy, a mother's courage, and we are grateful because mothers are willing to be fools so that we will look good.

Her Prayer:

- (1) She prayed that her sons would be part of the Kingdom of God. She had heard Jesus talk about the Kingdom of God, and she knew that she wanted this for her sons more than anything else. Like her, we need to pray that our children will grow up to be truly born again in the Spirit, because without being born again no one will enter the Kingdom of God. We need to pray hard because we cannot cause the New Birth, if God does not give His Spirit to cause the New Birth in us. We can desire it, and pray for it, but only God can make it happen. So get down on your knees and start praying like this mother.
- (2) She prayed that her sons would do the work of the Kingdom. This mother knew that there was great reward in working for the Kingdom. Therefore she did not want worldly rewards for her sons, she aimed and prayed for the heavenly eternal rewards (that her sons will sit at the side of Jesus in Heaven).
- (3) <u>He had high expectations</u> from God, and not from her sons, because it is God alone who can bring greatness. With this high expectation, she not only prayed hard for her sons, but she was also around her sons most of the time. She was among the inner circle of discipleship that followed Jesus around (Matthew 27:56).

Conclusion

Jesus asked them, "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" This is the cup of suffering and glory, the Cross and Resurrection.

Verses 23-28, Jesus shows them the way to greatness. This way leads through suffering, servant -hood, slavery, namelessness, serving and loving others. It is only mothers who walk this path well like no other. Mothers know how the cup of suffering tastes like, and therefore they will also know the glory of the Kingdom of God.

- Pastor Kedo Pesevie



Gity Church

THE WISDOM OF GOD

VISION statement of the City Church:

City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.

AIMS of the City Church:

Worship: To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.

Fellowship: To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.

Evangelism: To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.

Discipleship: To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.

Mission: To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.

Mission Sunday Service

Leader : Kaikhu Sumi

Speaker : Kunsang Chhopel Ushers : Orenvungi Michelle

: Orenvungi Michelle Yanthan

& Nuklabenla Jamir

Flower : Khrienuo Odi Jamir

Keyboard: Lithüngpeny Murry

Praise & Worship

Welcome & Announcement

Reading: Mathew 28: 16-20, Isaiah 6:8

Mission Overview : Robin Temsu

Prayer for Missions

Offertory

Prayer for Clean Election

Hymn No.266 : We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

Message

Hymn No.262 : Rescue the Perishing

Benediction

PRAYER

- Today, Baptist churches all over Nagaland are praying for the "Clean Election Campaign" initiated by the NBCC. Nothing is impossible with God. When we pray, we must believe that God will hear and answer.
- Pray for the members of the Core Committee for Clean Election so that God will grant wisdom and clarity for effective planning and execution.
- Pray for all our political leaders that they may remain faithful to the Biblical call to service, integrity, truth, justice and fairness.
- Pray for all the people of our State that we may stand firm in truth and honesty. Pray that the fear of the Lord will prevail over all wrongs.

Everyone is invited to the tea fellowship after the worship service.

MATHEW 28: 16-20, ISAIAH 6:8

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will be Music concert in aid of church building on 4th June (Sunday), 4:30pm at RCEMPA, Jotsoma.
- Thursday Women fellowship every Thursday @ 5pm.
- To avail transportation for Sunday service, contact Myingthungo Humtsoe @ 9402936043/8794172936.
- Children's choir practise every Saturday at 4pm.
- Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 5pm 6pm.

Sunday, May 14th, 2017

Tithes: ₹ 99,560

Offering: ₹ 15,460

Thanksgiving: ₹ 4,000

Mission: ₹ 8,000 Building Fund: ₹ 37,000

Nagamese: ₹ 496

Total: ₹ 1,64,516

ENROUTE

1 Cor. 16:1-24: It is said to contain a formula for victorious living, the kind of Christian life that God desires for His children. Always be on your guard: 'Keep awake and be vigilant!' We must be on the alert all the time. Our three great enemies are the world, the flesh and the Devil, and unless we are on guard, we shall be overcome by these enemies. Stand firm in the faith: 'stay put' – have spiritual convictions and stick to them - be men and women of the Word – 2 Timothy 2:15. We shall never grow up into spiritual maturity and be strong in the Lord and in His power unless we feed constantly upon the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:15-17). Do not rely upon yourself: We are incapable of facing the world, the flesh and the Devil, of living a life that pleases God in our own strength – Ephesians 6:10-17. The plain, simple advice is this: Don't rely on ourself! – 2 Corinthians 3:5-6. Let love regulate all that you do: Love is the hallmark, the distinguishing feature of the Christian: love to the Lord Jesus (John 14:15); and love for all the Lord's people (John 13:34-35). – **Moa Imsong**

Evening program (3pm)

Leader : Akumla Walling

Mission Report : Joshua Ministry, Bhutan

Love Burma Mission

Sisterhood Network, Kohima

Cradle Ridge, Kohima

NCF, Hyderabad

Special time of Prayer for the City Church Mission projects.

110	otes:			

<u>citychurchkoh@gmail.com</u>,Facebook: "City Church Kohima".

Contact: 0370-2242687 / 7085120374