

The Final Words of Jesus – John 19:25-27

“Woman, behold your son... Behold your mother!”

We have taken time the past two Sundays to imagine the crucifixion scene from the perspective of Jesus... and the criminal on the cross next to him... Today we will look at the perspective of His mother...

This is not the kind of sermon you reserve for Mother’s Day... Can you imagine what it must have been like for Jesus’ mom to observe his death?

Back in Jesus’ childhood, when he was presented at the Temple, Simeon declared these words to Mary about what this day would be like for her. Luke 2:22-35 – “A sword will pierce your own soul.”

There couldn’t be a more accurate depiction of what she must’ve experienced. If you are a mother, could you imagine this being done to your son?

Mary had already lost her husband... And her other sons, James & Jude... were not present... But Jesus, in His own agony on the cross, shows His mother love & honor... He provides for her immediate and ongoing needs...

Jesus gives his mother a son to love, in the midst of her losing her first born! Far beyond what we do w/dogs (by adding a puppy to address the loss), Jesus filled the coming void w/ an opportunity for her to love another as her own!

This was also a way for Mary to be taken care of when Jesus would no longer be present to care for, and provide for, her needs. The 5th commandment

But Mary is not the only one who Jesus cared, & provided for, in this scene. There was also in this moment, the disciple who Jesus loved, & who loved Him...

When all others scattered & left Jesus alone, John was there at the cross in this incredibly important moment in Jesus’s life... & in his own life as well...

Again, Jesus in the midst of his own agony, cares for John who is struggling in his own grief... By providing for him a human presence... & a noble purpose!

John was about to experience great loss, & Jesus gives him a mother to comfort him in that moment, as well as a mother to care for, out of love for his dying friend! Jesus met John in his point of need just as he did Mary!

Why didn’t Jesus just entrust his mother to his biological brothers? Why John? And why didn’t Jesus just point John to his own family? Why Mary?

Jesus, brought into existence a new family... A family formed by faith in him!

It says in proverbs that “there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” (Prov. 18:24)... It also says in Proverbs 17:17 – “A friend loves at all times, & a brother is born for adversity.” I wonder if Jesus had this in mind...

In Christ, there is a bond that is stronger than blood... A 3-fold chord that is not easily broken... Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

Like Jesus does in this passage, God provides us with people in our lives that He intends to be like family to us. He connects us with others in our shared faith that He intends for us to love like our own, and vice versa!

This is why Jesus, in Matthew 12:46-50, calls his followers his true family – “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

Have you experienced this in your life? Do you have a mother/father in the faith? Do you have a son/daughter in Christ? Do you have Christian sisters & brothers? What impact have they had on your life? And you on theirs?

This is why “the Church” is so important... we need one another... We all will encounter hardships in life, & we all need brothers/sisters “born for adversity!”

We need mothers/fathers who will nurture & lead us in the faith! We need sons/daughters to help raise up to become men & women of God! We need the encouragement & accountability of loving brothers & sisters shaping us in Christ

This is the calling, the joy, the privilege of being “the Church!” And Jesus is the bond that takes us from being Sunday acquaintances & makes us family!

- Do you see the people in this room as members of your faith family?
- Who has been a spiritual mother/father to you? _____
- Who have you invested in as spiritual children? _____
- Who has been a “John”, to you, a fellow disciple you love, & are loved by?

Titus 2:1-9 – This is why we have a Titus Women’s Group, & a Men’s Group... It is why we are starting Generation Spark this year... It is why we have Youth Group... Renewals... Bible Studies/Small Groups... Ministries... Missional Opp...

It is why we have a membership process, and we bring people into not only our building, but into our family! My hope for our 10 new members...

Our faith journeys, & our lives, are community projects... We need one another! These final words of Jesus reveal that reality!

So who are “your people”? I hope they are “faith” people... BRC people!

The Final Words of Jesus – John 19:25-27

“Woman, behold your son... Behold your mother!”

We have taken time the past two Sundays to imagine the crucifixion scene from the perspective of Jesus... and the criminal on the cross next to him... Today we will look at the perspective of _____

This is not the kind of sermon you reserve for Mother’s Day... Can you imagine what it must have been like for Jesus’ mom to observe _____

Back in Jesus’ childhood, when he was presented at the Temple, Simeon declared these words to Mary about what this day would be like for her. **Luke 2:22-35 – “A sword will _____**

There couldn’t be a more accurate depiction of what she must’ve experienced. If you are a mother, could you imagine this being done to your son?

Mary had already lost _____ And her other sons, James & Jude... were not present... But Jesus, in His own agony on the cross, shows His mother love & honor... He provides for her immediate and ongoing needs...

Jesus gives his mother a _____ in the midst of her losing her first born! Far beyond what we do w/dogs (by adding a puppy to address the loss), Jesus filled the coming void w/ an opportunity for her to love another as _____

This was also a way for Mary to be taken care of when Jesus would no longer be present to care for, and provide for, her needs. The 5th commandment

But Mary is not the only one who Jesus cared, & provided for, in this scene. There was also in this moment, the _____ & who loved Him...

When all others scattered & left Jesus alone, John was there at the cross in this incredibly important moment in Jesus’s life... & in his own life as well...

Again, Jesus in the midst of his own agony, cares for John who is struggling in his own grief... By providing for him a _____ & a noble _____

John was about to experience great loss, & Jesus gives him a mother to comfort him in that moment, as well as a mother to care for, out of love for his dying friend! Jesus met John in his point of need just as he did Mary!

Why didn’t Jesus just entrust his mother to his _____ Why John? And why didn’t Jesus just point John to his own family? Why Mary?

Jesus, brought into existence a _____ A family formed by faith in him!

It says in proverbs that *“there is a friend who sticks closer than _____ (Prov. 18:24)...* It also says in Proverbs 17:17 – *“A friend loves at all times, & a brother is born for _____* I wonder if Jesus had this in mind...

In Christ, there is a bond that is stronger than blood... A 3-fold chord that is not easily broken... **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.**

Like Jesus does in this passage, God provides us with people in our lives that He intends to be like family to us. He connects us with others in our _____ that He intends for us to love like our own, and vice versa!

This is why Jesus, in **Matthew 12:46-50**, calls his followers his _____ *“Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”*

Have you experienced this in your life? Do you have a mother/father in the faith? Do you have a son/daughter in Christ? Do you have Christian sisters & brothers? What _____ have they had on your life? And you on theirs?

This is why _____ is so important... we need one another... We all will encounter hardships in life, & we all need brothers/sisters *“born for adversity!”*

We need mothers/fathers who will nurture & lead us in the faith! We need sons/daughters to help raise up to become men & women of God! We need the encouragement & accountability of loving brothers & sisters shaping us in Christ

This is the calling, the joy, the privilege of being “the Church!” And _____ is the bond that takes us from being Sunday acquaintances & makes us family!

- Do you see the _____ as members of your faith family?
- Who has been a spiritual mother/father to you? _____
- Who have you invested in as spiritual children? _____
- Who has been a “John”, to you, a disciple you love, & are loved by? _____

Titus 2:1-9 – This is why we have a Titus Women’s Group, & a Men’s Group... It is why we are starting Generation Spark this year... It is why we have Youth Group... Renewals... Bible Studies/Small Groups... Ministries... Missional Opp...

It is why we have a _____ and we bring people into not only our building, but into our family! My hope for our 10 new members...

Our faith journeys, & our lives, are _____ We need one another! These final words of Jesus reveal that reality!

So who are “your people”? I hope they are “faith” people... _____