

St. Barnabas Homily 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time 1/20/2019 (John 2: 1-11Yr C

THIS WEEK,,, WE HEAR ABOUT A SPECIAL MOTHER!  
WE HEAR ABOUT MARY,,, **THE MOTHER OF JESUS,,, “THE  
SON OF GOD!** AND SHE APPEARS IN SCRIPTURE,,,  
**TO BE THE PERFECT MOTHER**

I THINK THAT MOST MOTHERS CAN IDENTIFY WITH WHAT I’AM ABOUT TO SAY. “**USA TODAY**” WROTE,,, THAT WHILE 90% OF MOTHERS TODAY,,, BELIEVE,,, THAT THE STEREOTYPE OF THE “**PERFECT MOM**” IS OUTDATED,,, BUT THAT MOST MOMS STILL FEEL PRESSURED TO BE THAT PERFECT MOTHER.

THIS WILL PROBABLY DATE ME,,, BUT,,, DO YOU RECALL THESE TV SHOWS: THE **BRADY BUNCH?** **FATHER KNOWS BEST?** **ANDY GRIFFITH?**

ADMITTEDLY,,, THESE PROGRAMS HELPED ME,,, SHAPE MY IDEA,,, OF WHAT A PERFECT FAMILY SHOULD BE LIKE AND THEY SEEMED LIKE EXAMPLES OF PERFECT FAMILIES.

IN THE **BRADY BUNCH** FAMILY,,, BOTH PARENTS WERE WIDOWS,,, EACH HAD THREE CHILDREN AND THEY CAME TOGETHER TO FORM A FAMILY. THERE’S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT,,, BUT,,, NOT A PERFECT SITUATION.

IN THE **ANDY GRIFFITH** FAMILY,,, THERE WAS NO MOM,,, AND A SINGLE DAD,,, WHO RAISED HIS SON,,, WITH THE HELP OF THEIR LOVING AUNT BEA. NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT,,, BUT,,, NOT A PERFECT SITUATION.

IN THE **FATHER KNOWS BEST** FAMILY,,, A WONDERFUL MOM AND DAD RAISED YOUNG CHILDREN,,, WHO OFTEN GOT INTO TROUBLE,,, BY MAKING BAD DECISIONS.

BUT SOMEHOW,,, THESE PARENTS ALWAYS SEEMED TO HAVE THE RIGHT ANSWERS! BUT,,, THAT’S NOT THE WAY IT HAPPENS,,, IN REAL FAMILIES,,, IS IT?

WELL,,, ALLOW ME SAY SOMETHING,,, THAT MOST OF US ALREADY PROBABLY KNOW;

***THERE ARE NO PERFECT FAMILIES! THEY DON'T EXIST!***

NOW,,, WHILE ALL OF US MAY HAVE STARTED OUT ON THIS “*FAMILY ADVENTURE*” TRYING TO CREATE *THE PERFECT FAMILY*,,, IT'S A GOAL THAT WE WE'RE DESTINED TO FAIL AT,,, BECAUSE LIKE I SAID: *THE PERFECT FAMILY DOESN'T EXIST!*

MOST MOMS,,, CAN IDENTIFY WITH THAT,,, BUT,,, LET ME SAY IT AGAIN; ***THERE ARE NO PERFECT FAMILIES***,,, AND,,,

***THERE ARE NO PERFECT MOMS!***

I SAY THIS,,, BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO KNOW,,, *THAT IT'S OK!* HOPEFULLY,,, THAT SHOULD GIVE YOU SOME RELIEF! BECAUSE,,, WE'RE IN GOOD COMPANY. IT'S A GOAL THAT NO ONE CAN MEET!

TODAYS SCRIPTURE READING IS ABOUT JESUS & HIS MOTHER WHO ARE AT THE WEDDING FEAST AT CANA.

NOW,,, I WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO THINK ABOUT ANY MOTHER,,, WHO IS MORE HONORED THAN MARY!

***SHE WAS CHOSEN BY GOD,,, TO BE THE MOTHER OF OUR SAVIOR.***

I THINK YOU'LL AGREE WITH ME,,, THAT MARY IS THE SINGLE,,, MOST IMPRESSIVE WOMAN,,, IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE!

SHE WAS A TREMENDOUS WOMAN OF FAITH. SOME EVEN SAY,,, MARY WAS PERFECT AND THAT SHE NEVER SINNED,,, BUT THE TRUTH IS; THAT BEING HUMAN,,, SHE DID SIN!

MARY WOULD BE THE FIRST TO TELL YOU THAT SHE WASN'T PERFECT AND THAT SHE MIGHT BE “*OVER HER HEAD*” IN RAISING JESUS,,, BUT SHE WOULD ALSO,,, QUICKLY REMIND US,,, THAT ***WHILE NOT PERFECT,,, SHE WAS CHOSEN.***

***AND IF YOU'RE A MOM,,, REMEMBER,,, YOU WERE CHOSEN AS WELL,,, FOR A VERY SPECIAL TASK!***

JOHN CHAPTER 2,,, DESCRIBES A JEWISH WEDDING PARTY,,, THAT WAS MUCH,,, MORE ELABORATE,,, THAN OURS TODAY!

THEY STARTED OUT WITH A HUGE FEAST,,, FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY. THEN,,, LATE IN THE DAY,,, THE FATHER OF THE BRIDE WOULD TAKE HIS DAUGHTER ON HIS ARM,,, AND PARADE HER THROUGH THE STREETS AND EVERYONE WOULD CONGRATULATE HER.

SOON,,, THE WEDDING PARTY,,, WOULD ARRIVE AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE GROOMS HOUSE. AFTER THAT,,, THE WEDDING PARTY WOULD LIGHT TORCHES AND PARADE THE BRIDE AND GROOM,,, THROUGH THE STREETS,,, TAKING THE LONGEST ROUTE POSSIBLE,,, SO EVERYONE COULD SEE THEM.

**THEN THE PARTY GOT STARTED!**

FOR THE NEXT WEEK,,, THE NEWLYWEDS HELD AN *OPEN HOUSE* WHERE *THEY WERE TREATED LIKE ROYALTY*. THEY WORE FANCY CLOTHES,,, AND THE GROOMS FAMILY,,, PROVIDED REFRESHMENTS FOR THE ENTIRE WEEK.

NOW THAT'S THE SETTING FOR TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING ABOUT THE **WEDDING AT CANA!** AND EVERYTHING WAS GOING SO WELL,,, THEN,,, THERE WAS A HUGE PROBLEM;

**THEY RAN OUT OF WINE!**

IN THOSE DAYS,,, A GOOD HOST,,, NEVER RAN OUT OF WINE!  
AND THEY NEVER RAN OUT OF FOOD OR OTHER DRINKS,,, SO NOW,,, THERE WAS A CRISIS.

SOME BIBLE SCHOLARS BELIEVE THAT THIS MUST HAVE BEEN THE WEDDING OF ONE OF JOSEPH AND MARY'S RELATIVES,,, OR,,, PERHAPS A CLOSE FRIEND. WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE,,, BUT WHOEVER THIS WAS,,, IT WAS A PERSONAL ISSUE FOR MARY AND ONE,,, THAT SHE NEEDED TO CORRECT.

MARY KNEW,,, THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE MAN TO FIX THIS PROBLEM,,, AND,,, THAT MAN,,, WAS HER SON,,, JESUS!

AT THAT TIME,,, JESUS MUST HAVE BEEN AROUND 30 YEARS OLD,,, BUT,,, HE WAS STILL HER SON!

IT WASN'T SO MUCH HER WORDS,,, RATHER THAN HOW SHE SAID IT! MAYBE THERE WAS A REFLECTION IN HER VOICE.

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN! YOU PARENTS KNOW HOW TO GET YOUR CHILDREN'S ATTENTION,,, WHEN YOU SPEAK TO THEM,,, DON'T YOU?

NOW JESUS KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT MARY WAS SAYING. HE KNOWS HOW SHE SAID IT,,, AND IT MAY EVEN HAVE ANNOYED HIM A LITTLE,,, BECAUSE HIS RESPONSE IS KIND OF HARSH!

***“WOMAN,,, HOW DOES YOUR CONCERN EFFECT ME”***

NOW,,, KIDS DON'T USUALLY SAY THINGS LIKE THAT TO THEIR PARENTS,,, DO THEY? IT'S DISRESPECTFUL AND THERE ARE USUALLY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES,,, AREN'T THERE?

THEN JESUS SAYS; ***“MY HOUR HAS NOT YET COME.”*** IN OTHER WORDS,,, ***THE TIME ISN'T RIGHT!***

JESUS MAY HAVE BEEN THINKING,,, ***DON'T PUSH ME***,,, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT MARY WAS DOING. SHE WAS PUSHING JESUS.

MARY WAS; ***NO DOUBT A GREAT MOM- CHOSEN,,, BECAUSE SHE WAS A GREAT WOMAN. CHOSEN,,, BECAUSE SHE WOULD DO THE JOB RIGHT!*** BUT,,, ***AT THE SAME TIME,,, SHE WAS A LOT LIKE,,, MANY OF US PARENTS TODAY CAN BE,,, A LITTLE PUSHY!***

JESUS MAY BE 30,,, BUT MARY,,, IS STILL MOMMA AND SHE STILL WANTS TO RUN HIS LIFE! AFTER ALL,,, HE'S HER SON!

I BELIEVE THAT MARY KNEW THAT JESUS WAS THE MESSIAH. BY THAT TIME,,, IT HAD SUNK IN AND SHE MAY HAVE BEEN READY FOR HER SON,,, TO STEP UP,,, AND START DOING,,, THE MESSIAH KIND OF THINGS.

THE POINT IS,,, THAT MARY,,, IS NOT A SINLESS SAINT HERE. THIS IS A HUMAN MOTHER,,, WHO FELT THE NEED,,, AS MOST MOTHERS DO,,, AT TIMES,,, TO ***GET IN THERE AND FIX THINGS***,,, WHEN THINGS AREN'T GOING THE WAY THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO GO,,, AND MOM SAYS; I NEED SOMEONE TO FIX THIS!

MARY WAS HUMAN! SHE HAD THE SAME WEAKNESSES WE ALL HAVE! AND CERTAINLY,,, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN SHE MADE THE WRONG DECISIONS.

HAVE ANY OF YOU MOMS EVER MADE A WRONG DECISION? EVERYONE DOES!

HAVE YOU EVER DONE SOMETHING YOU REGRET,,  
SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO KNOW  
ABOUT? IF SO,, YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY WITH MARY.

FOR ME,, THAT'S WHAT MAKES THIS STORY SO WONDERFUL  
AND POWERFUL. THE FACT IS,, THAT MARY,, WAS JUST LIKE  
US,, **CHOSEN,, BUT,, NOT PERFECT!**

SCRIPTURE TELLS US THAT MARY SPOKE,, AND SHE EXPECTED  
IT TO BE DONE.

DON'T YOU EVER GET TIRED OF PEOPLE ASKING YOU,, WHY?  
YOU ASK THEM TO DO SOMETHING,, & ALL YOU GET IS; WHY?  
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THAT,, OR WHY DO I HAVE TO DO  
THIS,, WHY,, WHY,, WHY?

MOM'S AND DAD'S,, I DON'T EVEN WANT TO TRY TO START ON  
OUR KIDS AND THEIR WHY'S,, DO YOU?

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO "YES MA'AM OR YES SIR?

WELL ANYWAY,, MARY JUST SPOKE AND THEN SHE EXPECTED  
THINGS TO GET DONE!

BUT NOTICE IF YOU WILL,, THAT MARY NEVER TOLD ANYONE  
HOW TO FIX THE PROBLEM. SHE JUST SAID TO THE  
SERVANTS,, **DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU!**

MOMS,, LET ME REMIND YOU,, YOU WILL MAKE MISTAKES  
AND YOU WILL GET ANGRY,, WHEN YOU'RE TIRED.

YOU MIGHT YELL,, WHEN YOU SHOULDN'T,, AND YOU MAY  
FAIL MORE TIMES THAN YOU WANT TO ADMIT,, BUT,, YOU  
WILL NEVER GO WRONG,, IF YOU TELL YOUR KIDS THIS;

**DO WHATEVER JESUS SAYS!**

BROTHERS AND SISTERS,, EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY BE A  
PERSON OF GREAT FAITH,, THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN  
YOU'LL BE WRONG!

EVEN PETER,, THE LEADER OF THE 12,, DENIED JESUS 3  
TIMES,, AND MOSES; LED HIS PEOPLE TO THE PROMISED  
LAND,, BUT BECAUSE OF HIS ANGER,, HE DIDN'T GET TO GO  
IN.

**YOU CAN BE A GREAT MOM,,, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT!**

**MARY WAS CHOSEN,,, AND YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS WELL.**

**MARY WAS IMPORTANT,,, AND YOU'RE IMPORTANT TOO.**

**IN FACT,,, WHAT JOB,,, CAN THINK OF,,, THAT WOULD BE MORE IMPORTANT,,, THAN BEING A GREAT MOTHER,,, TO THE CHILDREN OF GOD,,, THAT HE HAS PLACED IN YOUR LIFE?**

**MARY WANTED A MIRACLE,,, AND JESUS GAVE HER ONE. HE TURNED THE WATER INTO WINE,,, IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY.**

**NOT ONLY DID HE GIVE HER THIS MIRACLE,,, HE GAVE HER MORE THAN THEY COULD POSSIBLY NEED. THOSE 6 STONE JARS HELD ABOUT 20-30 GALLONS EACH. ROUGHLY 150 GALLONS OF WINE,,, AND IT WAS,,, THE VERY BEST WINE!**

**NOTHING WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIS MOM. MARY GOT MORE THAN SHE COULD IMAGINE,,, BECAUSE SHE ASKED IN FAITH! IT TAKES FAITH BROTHERS AND SISTERS,,, TO SAY THESE WORDS TO YOUR CHILDREN; DO WHATEVER JESUS ASKS! AND YOU WILL BE FINE!**

**NONE OF US ARE PERFECT. WE'RE ALL SINNERS:**

**“ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALLEN SHORT OF GOD'S GLORY”.**

**SCRIPTURE TELLS US,,, THAT THE WAGES OF SIN,,, ARE DEATH,,, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD,,, IS ETERNAL LIFE!**

**WE ARE BELIEVERS,,, CHRISTIANS,,, AND WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN INVITATION,,, BY JESUS,,, WHEN HE SAID;**

***BEHOLD,,, I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK,,, IF ANYONE HEARS MY VOICE AND OPENS THE DOOR,,, I WILL COME IN,***

**JESUS KEEPS HIS PROMISES BROTHERS AND SISTERS,,, EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM! IF YOU ASK JESUS INTO YOUR HEART,,, BY FAITH,,, TODAY,,, HE WILL ANSWER!**

***IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT***

**AMEN**

**+++**

**(1,635 WDS 6 PGS)**

