



Life Groups 2018

NLC Life Group Sermon Study

Week of May 13, 2018

Sermon: Family Series I

A Tribute to Moms

Life Group Schedule

15 MIN Eat, Meet & Greet

15 MIN Ice Breaker Game: **Find Someone Whose Mom.** Description: The facilitator will prepare a questionnaire ahead of time that will include 5 - 10 descriptions of someone each person will be looking for in the group. The participants will go around the room with the goal of finding someone whose Mom matches the descriptions listed. Sample questions (feel free to make up your own): Find someone whose Mom...

- › Has a birthday the same month as yours
- › Does not leave the house without red lipstick
- › Makes the best chicken casserole
- › Has the most kids
- › Loves (or hates) cats
- › Has a bundt cake for everything
- › Loves to ride motorcycles
- › Has the biggest rose garden
- › Is the best (or worst) cook

OPENING PRAYER

45–60 MIN “A Tribute to Moms”

- Being a mom is not easy. If it were, it wouldn't have started out with something called “labor.”
- Today we honor mothers who fed us, clothed us, soothed us, doctored us, and sometimes spanked us. We honor mothers who chauffeur us, pick up our clothes, clean our rooms, make our beds, make a sack lunch every day, and served tirelessly. We honor mothers who stayed up all night with sick kids, cried through the night because of disobedience, who feel unfruitful, unappreciated, unbecoming, unfinished, uncertain, or invisible.
- God sees of the sacrifices, your deep love, and your faithfulness.
- **Mother's Day Sayings:**
 - › “The joy of motherhood is when all the children are finally sleep in bed.
 - › The mother of 3 notoriously unruly kids was asked “if you had to do it all over again would you have children”? “OH yes!” She replied. “But not the same ones.”
 - › A mother understands what a child doesn't say.
 - › If evolution really works then why do mothers still have just 2 hands.
 - › There is no greater pain medicine than a mothers kiss.
 - › The father may be the head of the house BUT the mother is the heart of the house.

- › Just about the time a mother's work is done she becomes a grandmother.

Lessons From Three Bible Moms

LESSON 1 — JOCHEBED: “BE FUELED BY THE CALLING OF GOD ON YOUR CHILD”

- This is the behind-the-scenes mother who ENDED SLAVERY.
READ EXODUS 2:1-6
- She is the mother of Moses! So behind-the-scenes that her name isn't mentioned.
 - › This is the mom who's fighting for the plan of God to come, fueled by the call of God on Moses. She refused to give up on God's dream.
 - › She was mentioned only a few times in Scripture, but her son wrote the first five books of the Bible.
 - › Jochebed had a future vision, a dream, and she did all she could possibly do so the world wouldn't destroy it!

Q1. How are you doing behind-the-scenes, when nobody is watching? Do you get discouraged? Is your alone time healthy, or do you dread it?

LESSON 2 — HANNAH: “PASSION FOR GOD CAN OVERCOME GREAT DISCOURAGEMENT.”

- Hannah was a little-known woman who built an army.
- She was discouraged because she couldn't have children.
 - › Hannah is hurting but she goes to the temple during one of the Jewish Festivals. While everyone else is out partying, Hannah is faithful, praying, pouring her heart out.
 - › The priest accuses her of being drunk. But she responded, “I'm not drunk; I'm pouring my soul out to the Lord.”
 - › Always be the mom who is faithful to the Lord, faithful in serving Him.

MATT 10:39 “Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.”

- The moms who are the happiest are like Hannah; during pressure, the run to the Lord.

1 SAMUEL 1:11-15 “Hannah prayed and said, if you let me have a child I will give that child to you Lord. All of his days I will teach him your ways.”

- Keep pouring your soul out to God. Take time to refuel spiritually. It can get pretty tense driving your car on empty, living your life on empty.
 - › Refueling will cost you something, but it's time well-spent.

Q2. How are you doing when under pressure? Do you spend time moment-by-moment, daily, weekly refueling your spirit?

LESSON 3 — SARAH: PAY THE FULL PRICE

- Unlike Jochabed, Sarah is mentioned more than any other woman.
 - › She is the first woman mentioned in the Hebrews 11 hall of fame
 - › Strengths: Praised God, laughed a lot, was fearless
 - › Weaknesses: Lacked faith, shifted blame, harsh, lied to cover sin.
 - › She called her husband "lord." She was willing to move to a dangerous place.

Q3. What are you facing? This season, are you:

- › ...beaten down and discouraged mothers who need the kind of inner healing that really only prayer can affect.
- › ...facing the empty nest.
- › ...mothers of wayward children who feel like total failures.
- › ...single moms who wonder how long they're going to be able to keep all the plates spinning and everything in order.
- › ... women who long to be mothers but cannot be.
- › ...mothers in blended families where it's not working well yet.
- › ...parenting preschoolers, wondering if this season will ever pass.
- Many need to be reminded of what Jesus said:

MATT. 11:28, NIV "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

PRAY TOGETHER THROUGH ANY NEEDS THAT HAVE SURFACED DURING THE DISCUSSION.

ANNOUNCEMENTS