

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS

International Sunday School Lesson for August 27, 1950

Memory Selection: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour."—Luke 1: 46-47.

Lesson Text: Luke 1: 46-48; 2: 48-51; Mark 3: 31-35; John 19: 25-27; Acts 1: 14.

No series of lessons on the great men and women of the Bible would be complete without study of Mary, the mother of Jesus. However, we know very little about her from an historical standpoint. We do not know who her parents were, only that Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, was her cousin.

It is a strange fact that none of the biographies we have of Jesus relate anything about the years he spent as a child and young man in Nazareth. Following the return of Mary and Joseph from Egypt with the baby Jesus, they settled in Nazareth. The next we hear of the family is upon the occasion of their trip to Jerusalem, when the boy Jesus was twelve years old. All we know of their home life is summed up, however, in Luke 2: 54, "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

Only in a home of love, helpfulness, thoughtfulness, care and consideration does a child grow in all phases—mentally, physically and socially. Thus, we can assume that the home over which Mary presided was such a home. The early years Jesus spent in the home with his mother, Mary, were very important—more important than many mothers realize, for "As the twig is bent, so grows the tree."

We are told that Joseph, the father in the home, died when Jesus was a young boy and, after that, of course, his whole training was in the hands of his mother. Hers must have been an unusual home to have produced such a spirit as his.

There are many legends and stories about Mary, some of them very beautiful. Many false traditions have grown up about her and many believers in the Christ have ascribed to her the deity which belongs to him, having made Jesus subservant to his mother. This was never meant to be. If you will read the words of Jesus carefully, you will see that he gave her the high place to which all Jewish mothers have been raised—and no more!

Oftentimes, the scriptures tell us that Mary "kept all these things in her heart." She fought her battles silently in her heart, all the way from Bethlehem to Calvary. She realized her sacred task of rearing a gifted Son for a heavenly mission. Her task was to rear him, to protect him, to keep him from exhaustion. However, he could not let her anxiety much as it troubled him, prevent him from doing his great work. Much as this must have disturbed her, her care of him in Nazareth, her concern for him during his exhausting ministry, her faith in him as he hung on the cross and died, have put her among the first saints of the Christian Church. Unto the end, she believed in her Son.

The world today needs more mothers like Mary. The need is for mothers who put their homes first. Dr. James I. Vance, in One Hundred Best Sermons, declared: "The revival of the home is more important than the revival of the church! The home is older in God's plan. It is basic. No revival in the church gets far enough nor lasts long enough, which does not affect the home. The church is the important institution of society, save one. It is more important than the shop or the school or the state, but it is not more important than the home. The character of the church is fixed by the home. There is not much future for any church which does not have behind its altar a fireside."

Edgar A. Guest, beloved poet, has given us the formula for the ideal Christian home. Here it is: Lord, this humble house we'll keep Sweet with play and calm with sleep. Help us so that we may give Beauty to the lives we live. Let thy love and let thy grace, Shine upon our dwelling place.

BE A BETTER CITIZEN! GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

The Future of a Duckling



How carefully Nature prepares her little ones for life!

Three little ducklings; all three have webbed feet that will propel them through the water, fuzzy down that will turn into the best waterproofing Nature can fashion, strong flat bills that will snap food from the water quicker than you can say "Donald Duck."

Nature prepares her little ones for life—except in the case of man.

Consider that youngster who is fascinated by the ducklings. MAYBE he'll gain a clear understanding of right and wrong. MAYBE he'll find courage to meet life's many discouragements. MAYBE he'll discover the Faith that enables a man to build spiritual values into his life.

Those things a child needs most, Nature does not provide. Parents must provide them—by giving him the advantage of thorough religious training in the Church.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Matthew	22	9-14
Monday	Luke	21	1-4
Tuesday	I John		18-21
Wednesday	Isaiah	2	1-7
Thursday	Matthew	23	1-12
Friday	Luke	14	7-11
Saturday	Luke	18	9-14

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Dalling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
Church services at 8:00 P. M.
Christian Union, 7:30 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. R. Byerly, Pastor
Church services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES
E. B. Edwards, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:30 P. M.
Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:30 P. M.
Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:30 P. M.
Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:30 P. M.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH
E. R. Meekins, Pastor
Church School, 11:00 O. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Carl Bjork, Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M. every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. G. Willis, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
Carl J. Yow, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.
Youth Fellowship, 6:30 P. M.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
G. M. Singletary, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:30 A. M. on first and third Sundays and 2:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.
Church services, 3:00 P. M. on second and fourth Sundays.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
Ben O. Merritt, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
E. T. Jilson, Rector
Holy Communion, 9:00 A. M.
Every Sunday except first Sunday at 9:00 A. M.
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 o'clock.
Holy Communion first Sunday at 11 A. M.

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Walker Perry, Pastor
Bible School 10:00 A. M. except second Sunday, at 10:30 A. M.
Morning worship on first Sunday at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first Sunday at 8 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
A. H. Oulaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go