

# the Connection

08 MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

## MOTHERHOOD, TRANSITIONS, AND THE GOSPEL

WRITTEN BY HOLLY WILLIAMS

One thing I can say with confidence is that you are in a transition. Transitions are never easy. What does motherhood look like in this time of quarantine? Is this a throw-away season, or does God have a purpose? Whether or not your children are still living at home with you, there are God-given opportunities for influence during this time.

I think of mothers as thermostats; they set the temperature for the comfort of the home. When mama is stressed, everyone tends to be on edge. This season of transition is like a refiner's fire, and sometimes the dross that rises is not pretty. But don't forget God's plan of redemption that began in the Garden of Eden and continues today. Because of Christ's death and resurrection and the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, we can thrive through challenges and display the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Emily Jensen, author of *Risen Motherhood* said, "Because of Jesus, transitions aren't just marked by pain, difficulty, and struggle—they are part of the redemptive plan, marked by the sanctification of God's people as they put away old sin and grow in Christlikeness."

This isn't a throw-away season. The Lord wants to use this transition in your life and in the lives of your children. Are you fighting all the change, or are you allowing the refiner's fire to purify you? Your children are watching, and God wants to purify them as well. Emily Jensen goes on to say, **"God has a greater purpose than the struggle we see today."** So don't lose heart, mama! Walk in God's purpose for you through this season. Be assured that He is walking beside you, creating a beautiful masterpiece in you and in the lives of your children.



# WORSHIP SERVICE

## BROADCAST

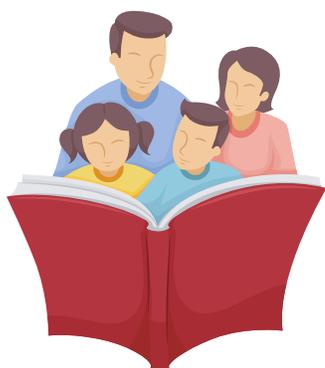
You can find the video and audio of the sermon and children's story broadcasts on our [sermon audio page](#).

"HANNAH: A MOTHER OF FAITH"  
1 SAMUEL 1:1-2:10  
PASTOR KEVIN WILLIAMS

- WELCOME
- OPENING PRAYER
- HYMN: "FAIREST LORD JESUS"
- HYMN: "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"
- 1 SAMUEL 2:1-10
- PRAYER
- HYMN: "DAY BY DAY"
- MESSAGE
- HYMN: "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"
- CLOSING PRAYER

## CHILDREN'S STORY BROADCAST

**This Sunday's children's story continues the 8-part reading of The Big Picture Story Bible by David Helm. Children of all ages will learn the Bible's message of "God's people in God's place under God's rule."**



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

To join an online group to discuss these questions and pray together on Wednesday evening at 7:00, email Pastor Kevin: [kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:kwilliams@meadowlandsbaptist.com)

1. Hannah was severely grieved by her inability to have children. What was the reason for her barrenness? (1 Sam 1:5-6) What does this tell us about life's difficulties?
2. Hannah is the first person recorded using the divine title "LORD of Hosts" (1 Sam 1:11). What does it mean?
3. What does Hannah's prayer reveal about her faith in God? (1 Sam 1:11)
4. What did Hannah's faith in God lead her to do? (1 Sam 1:10-2:10)
5. Why is it essential that we believe that God is both powerful and personal? What if He were powerful but not personal, or personal but not powerful?
6. Why do you think this particular episode is included in Scripture? How does it contribute to the Bible's story of redemption?
7. How does this Scripture narrative encourage your faith in the Lord?

Give us homes with godly fathers, mothers,  
Who always place their hope and trust in Him;  
Whose tender patience turmoil never bothers,  
Whose calm and courage trouble cannot dim;  
A home where each finds joy in serving others,  
And love still shines, though days be dark and grim.

--Barbara B. Hart



## FAMILIES REDEEM THE TIME

WRITTEN BY PASTOR MARK RICHMOND

In their book, *Instructing a Child's Heart*, Tedd and Margy Tripp write, "The surest way to teach children to apply God's truth to life's circumstances is to model it for them." In our particular situation, Christian parents have a great opportunity to live this out. Your children have more time with you to observe your walk with the Lord. They are also watching how you respond to suffering and uncertainty. What are they learning from you right now? How can we model trust in the Lord, even when we may not have answers? First, we can address the sin and idols that come to the surface during difficulty. Second, we should focus our attention on the Gospel of Christ and the truths of God's Word (e.g. Philippians 4:4-9). Third, we should pray to the Lord and cast our cares on Him. These are practical ways that we can trust God and model genuine faith to our children. Exemplifying the Christian faith during this time will leave a lasting impact for years to come. The Tripps continue by saying, "Parenting that exhibits a vital relationship with God in all the joys and storms of life is irresistible to children and young people." I pray that you will depend on the Lord's help as you model His truth to your family.

## VIRTUAL BABY SHOWER FOR CHERISE DUECK AND BABY JOSIAH: MAY 15.

Please see the Sincere Hearts Facebook page for details and gift suggestions. You may also e-transfer money to be collected for a gift card to [custom@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:custom@meadowlandsbaptist.com).



## CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES BLOOD DRIVE AT MBC: MAY 23 9-1

Call 1-888-2 DONATE or go online to [blood.ca](http://blood.ca) to make an appointment.



## FOUNDATION BAPTIST COLLEGE ONLINE ESCHATOLOGY BLOCK CLASS WITH DR. BRIAN COLLINS: MAY 18-23

This block class will be taught online through Zoom. There is an online registration and payment system set up so that anyone can participate. All of the information for the class, including a registration link, can be found at the [college website course page](#).

## PRAYER REQUESTS

In the newsletter, we try to include submitted prayer requests from those in our church family who want to share their requests in this format. Requests may be emailed to [info@meadowlandsbaptist.com](mailto:info@meadowlandsbaptist.com) by Thursdays at noon.

- Diane Burdett's son, Steven, is homeless. Pray that he finds the Lord, comes off the streets, and repents of his lifestyle.
- Estelie Fries, and Diane Burdett are among 24 members and attendees of Meadowlands who work in the health care industry.
- Mitch Laslo and Merv Tuplin are home recovering from recent strokes.
- John Knutson's mom has Alzheimers and is staying in a long-term facility in Ontario. They recently had two patients and seven staff test positive for C-19.
- Several of our senior citizens are in assisted living homes and isolated from their friends and families.

Did you know?



The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis--who remained unmarried and childless her whole life. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services.

credit:

"Mother's Day 2020," [www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day](http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day)



Her children rise up and call her blessed



## Need to contact us?

Pastor Kevin Williams

587-635-2758

Pastor Jerry Ascher

587-635-2751

Pastor Mark Richmond

587-635-2752



David Treau

587-635-2753

Church Office

780-440-1195

2215-17 ST. NW, EDMONTON, AB T6T 1J1

[WWW.MEADOWLANDSBAPTIST.COM](http://WWW.MEADOWLANDSBAPTIST.COM)