

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

May 13, 2018

We gather today as “the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant ... ” Hebrews 12:23-24a

A Time for Preparation

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

Thou Great Three-One,

Author of all blessing I enjoy, of all I hope for, you have taught me that neither experience of present evils, nor the remembrances of former sins, nor the remonstrances of friends, will or can affect a sinner’s heart, except you vouchsafe to reveal your grace and quicken the dead in sin by the effectual working of your Spirit’s power. You have shown me that the sensible effusions of divine love in the soul are superior to and distinct from bodily health, and that oft-times spiritual comforts are at their highest when physical well-being is at its lowest. You have given me the ordinance of song as a means of grace. Fit me to bear my part in that music ever new, which elect angels and saints made perfect now sing before your throne and before the Lamb. I bless you for tempering every distress with joy; too much of the former might weigh me down, too much of the latter might puff me up. You are wise to give me a taste of both. I love you for giving me clusters of grapes in the wilderness and drops of heavenly wine that set me longing to have my fill. Apart from you I quickly die, bereft of you I starve, far from you I thirst and droop. But you are all I need. Let me continually grasp the promise, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (The Valley of Vision Prayer Book)

Ringing of Bell Judah Gosnell

Announcements..... Deacon

A Time for Praise:

Prelude

Call to Worship

Scripture and Prayer Travis Gosnell

- *Hymn of Praise* *Let Us Love, and Sing, and Wonder* Hymn #127

A Time for Offering:

- *Offertory Hymn* *Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord* ... Hymn #705

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Tithes and Offerings Ushers

A Time for Hearing God’s Word:

Choral Message..... *Psalm of Quietness*..... Arr. Wilson

Message Travis Gosnell

Pastoral Prayer

A Time for Surrender:

- *Hymn of Response* *Just As I Am* Hymn #431

- Benediction

Postlude

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Affirmation of Faith – Westminster Larger Catechism

69. How is it signified and sealed to you in Holy Baptism, that you have part in the one sacrifice of Christ on the cross?

Thus: that Christ instituted this outward washing with water(Matt 28:19,20; Acts 2:38.) and joined therewith this promise(Matt 3:11; Mark 16:16; Rom 6:3,4.), that I am washed with His blood and Spirit from the pollution of my soul, that is, from all my sins, as certainly as I am washed outwardly with water, whereby commonly the filthiness of the body is taken away.(Mark 1:4)

70. What is it to be washed with the blood and Spirit of Christ?

It is to have the forgiveness of sins from God through grace, for the sake of Christ’s blood, which He shed for us in His sacrifice on the cross;(Heb 12:24; 1 Pet 1:2; Rev 1:5; Zech 13:1; Ezek 36:25-27.) and also, to be renewed by the Holy Spirit and sanctified to be members of Christ, that so we may more and more die unto sin and lead holy and blameless lives. (John 1:33; John 3:3; 1 Cor 6:11; 1 Cor 12:13.)

71. Where has Christ promised that we are as certainly washed with His blood and Spirit as with the water of Baptism?

In the institution of Baptism, which says: “Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit .(Matt 28:19) He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned.”(Mark 16:16) This promise is also repeated, where Scripture calls Baptism the washing of regeneration,(Titus 3:5) and the washing away of sins.(Acts 22:16)

Opportunities of the Week

Sunday, May 13

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY

NO EVENING SERVICES

Monday, May 14

10:00 a.m. Prayer Group 5

6:00 p.m. Prayer Group 6

Wednesday, May 16

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

Nursery this week: Crystal Thomson
Theresa Engel

Church Watch this month: Larry Powell

Why You Don’t Need to Be a Super Saint to Be a Spiritual Mother

By Susan Hunt

Spiritual Mothering Versus Coaching

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. (Titus 2:3-5)

The popular concept of mentoring and coaching suggest some degree of structure and formality. Spiritual mothering may involve mentoring and coaching, but it is broader. Nurturing seems to be more compatible with what Paul is advocating in his command in Titus 2:3-5.

A nurturing relationship may be structured and ongoing or informal and infrequent. It may be up close or at a distance. It may involve formal instruction, or it may simply mean a weekly telephone call to a new mother who needs support as she adjusts to motherhood. It may mean one-on-one Bible study, or it may mean meeting for lunch once a week to give practical guidance to a colleague about living out her faith in the marketplace. Whatever form it takes, the similarity is that the faith of the younger woman is nourished and enhanced by the relationship.

Whatever the degree of involvement and however the relationship works itself out, the command is clear: older women are to encourage and equip younger women to live for God’s glory. It does not seem to me that this is optional. Titus was not told to teach those women who were interested in signing up for the course. The command seems to be inclusive. The older women in the congregation were to be taught how to live in accordance with sound doctrine so that they could train the younger women—no exceptions.

Who Are “Older Women?”

It is impossible from the passage to designate a certain age requirement for older women. Cecil Williamson has explained it this way: “The method used to identify the older women in a local congregation is based on spiritual maturity. . . . Those who manifest the Christian virtues given in Titus 2:3 are to be viewed as the mature women in the local congregation.”

The character of Christ qualifies a woman to be a spiritual mother. This has nothing to do with biological birthing. It has everything to do with a knowledge of sound doctrine that produces faithful living.

Chronological age is a component because life experiences provide a valuable resource for training and encouraging younger women. Chronological age gives a view about the life stage that can only come from living through it. But that still does not indicate a specific chronological age. To a degree, we can all be both an older and a younger woman. A spiritually mature woman in her thirties may have a spiritual mother-daughter relationship with a woman in her twenties. The “thirty-something” woman has lived through the experiences the younger woman is facing and has a perspective that can only come from hindsight. At the same time, the “thirty-something” woman may be a spiritual daughter to a woman in her fifties while the “twenty-something” woman is “mothering” a teenager struggling to live for God’s glory.

The combination of spiritual maturity and life experiences qualify a woman to nurture a younger woman. Although this combination might be found at any age, my personal observation is that women in their fifties and beyond have a life-perspective that is only possible from living through several life-stages. These women must utilize the lessons learned through their various experiences to encourage and equip younger women to live for God's glory.

Frequently women in their twenties and thirties tell me they want spiritual mothers, but they cannot find older, spiritually mature women who indicate a willingness for such a relationship. Sometimes the situation may be that the older women in the church are new Christians and that younger women are doing the mothering. This role reversal is stretching, but it is workable. My advice to younger women in this situation is to ask the Lord to bring godly older women into their fellowship. In the meantime, they can be mothered "from afar" through books written by Christian women.

To think of yourself as a woman of "sound doctrine" and "spiritual maturity" may seem presumptuous. Perhaps you feel an element of relief because your assessment is that you can honestly disqualify yourself on the basis of these qualifications. Don't sell yourself short, and don't rob the kingdom of what you have to offer!

If you are a Christian woman who is seeking to grow in the faith and to live obediently, then you are qualified for spiritual motherhood. If you are not seeking to grow in the faith and to live obediently, then you have a problem that must be confronted! Sound doctrine does not mean that you are a theological expert. Spiritual maturity does not mean that you have reached super sainthood. It does mean that you are growing in your knowledge of the Word and in your desire to apply the Word to every area of your life.

And there are women in your church who need you.

Eva's Example

If you rode through Brenda's beautiful neighborhood, you would never guess that inside one of those houses is a woman whose life is in shreds. If you saw Brenda and her family sitting in church each Sunday, you would never guess she is a battered woman. But Eva, an older woman in Brenda's church, did begin to suspect something.

Eva saw Brenda's gradual withdrawal. She doubted Brenda's husband when he told people that Brenda had emotional problems. Her suspicions grew when he insisted that no one from the church should visit Brenda. Eva did go to Brenda's home. She read Scripture and prayed with the young woman, and finally Brenda admitted the truth. Eva went with her to talk with the pastor, and eventually the situation was resolved.

Brenda's testimony is that her friends had questioned her, but she would not admit the truth to them. She was too embarrassed to admit that she had come to accept the unacceptable. But something about the love and compassion of an older woman enabled her to break. "As Eva put her arm around me and prayed, I felt like a little girl being loved by her mother, and the tears and words began to flow," she said.

No theological expert. No super saint. Just a woman willing to be obedient to the command to mother.

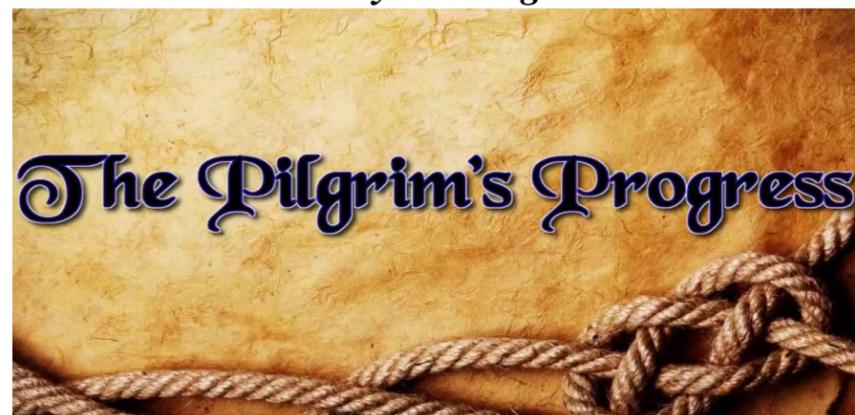
This article is adapted from Spiritual Mothering: The Titus 2 Model for Women Mentoring Women by Susan Hunt.

We thank you for worshipping with us today. We trust that your heart has been encouraged, your spirit filled, and that you will leave here equipped for the work to which God has called you. If you would like to find out more information about Poplar Springs Baptist Church, please visit our website: www.poplarspringsws.org or call (864) 861-2196.

Sunday Evening Service



Wednesday Evening Service



Church Contact Information:

Church/Fellowship Building: (864) 861-2190

Office/Parsonage: (864) 861-2196

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 124, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Church Office: 6466 Poplar Springs Road, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4

Email: balentine@poplarspringsws.org

Pastor: Pastor Bruce Ostrom
wostrom1@aim.com

Youth Pastor: Travis Gosnell

Music Leader: Deck Balentine

Pianist: Jean Powell

Website: www.poplarspringsws.org

Poplar Springs

Baptist Church



“For this child I prayed, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of Him. So, I have also dedicated the life of the little one to the LORD.’ And they worshiped the LORD there.”
I Samuel 1:27-28

THE LORD'S DAY, May 13, 2018

**6000 Poplar Springs Road
Ware Shoals, SC 29692
(864) 861-2196
www.poplarspringsws.org**

Pastor W. Bruce Ostrom

Sunday School: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am