

**"Mother's Day 2018"**

**Sarah**

**Introduction:** Today has been set aside to celebrate one of the most important people in the world and that is MOM. Happy Mother's Day to all the moms who are here today and all who are listening on Livestream.

There are many messages which we could consider today and there are many moms in the Bible we could look at. I could stand up here today and I could preach to you about the characteristics which should be seen in every mom. I could stand up here today and tell all the moms who are listening just how important your job is as a mom. Some of you would then leave here feeling down because you feel like you have failed in many areas as a mom.

But we are not going to look at a message that will make you feel like you have failed but instead we are going to look at a message of encouragement for all the moms who are listening today.

Moms have one of the most important jobs on this earth and many of you know that. With that knowledge there often comes a HUGE amount of weight and GUILT. You see moms place so much pressure upon themselves in the role which God has given to them. They often carry weights which God never intended for them to carry. You see moms are under the pressure of trying to raise a PERFECT FAMILY.

Being a mother today seems to be so much more intense than it was when my mom raised me. I would get up in the morning and eat breakfast and then my friends would come by and we would take off for the woods or the river and we would be gone all day. We would return in the evening for supper and then take off again for the evening and come home sometime after dark. Mom was there when we got hungry, hurt or needed some money for fishing bait or whatever. There was far less pressure on moms back then than there is today.

It is so different today. You cannot send your child out of the house all day today. So, moms are with the children often for the entire day. They plan events they teach their children to prepare them for school. They must be very careful what they allow them to be exposed to. Then moreover is the SOCIAL MEDIA. Almost everything you do is known by others. People post the accomplishments of their children and others in the family and you read about this and you feel like you must keep up with all others. If your child does not measure up to all others you can be made to feel as though you have done something wrong.

I point to all of this because it makes moms feel like they must have the perfect family and if they don't then there is no way they can be happy and content.

Today I want to step you into the life of Sarah. Her life was far from perfect as we shall see. BUT SHE COULD REJOICE.

I. **Her husband was not perfect.**

There are many ladies here today and I am sure if there are things about your husband that you could change you would be quick to make the adjustment. Maybe you have been pressuring your husband in certain areas to make some changes but it seems to fall on deaf ears. Let me give you a little encouragement. There was only ONE PERFECT MAN and they crucified him.

Sarah's husband Abram was far from perfect. Let me show you a few negatives about Abram.

1. **He was self-centered.**

**Notice Genesis 12:6-20**

Abram had left Ur of the Chaldees to follow God and he had not been in the land of Canaan very long and he encountered a test and it was a very severe famine. He never sought the will of God but instead he decided to go south to Egypt. Egypt is a type of the world and so he turned to the world instead of trusting God and seeking His will. As they journeyed toward Egypt Abram directed his wife to lie about who she was. Abram feared that when people found out she was his wife that they would kill him then take her.

She followed his command and when they came to Egypt she was taken from him and placed in Pharaoh's harem. Abram was so concerned for his own life that he did not seem to be concerned about what would happen to Sarai.

**Notice Genesis 20:9-13**

In his planning he had his interests in mind.

**Application:**

Let me just address the husbands for a moment if I could. Men it is so easy to become self-centered in our lives but we must guard against being that way.

**Ephesians 5:25**

*<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*

This is speaking of a sacrificial love and an unconditional love.

**Genesis 2:20-24**

<sup>20</sup> And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

<sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

<sup>22</sup> And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

<sup>23</sup> And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

The wife is to be under the protection of the husband's arm.

II. **She did not have a perfect body.**

**Notice Genesis 11:27-30**

Sarai was barren and in Abram's day the woman was often looked at as a murder when she was unable to have children. She was thought to take the seed of the man and kill it instead of giving life to it.

**Application:**

In our society today, there is great pressure on women to have the perfect body. There is so much emphasis placed upon having a certain body shape and when a woman does not fit that type she feels like she has failed or like there is something wrong with her. Women and men place themselves under rigorous training to have what the world calls a PERFECT BODY.

**1 Timothy 4:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

<sup>8</sup> For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

There is nothing wrong with exercise but live for a certain shaped body or to attain a certain body weight can become IDOLTRY. There are people who are completely consumed with exercise and their desire for a particular shaped body has become an IDOL.

III. **She did not have a perfect faith.**

**Notice Genesis 18:1-15**

When Sarah heard the announcement by the Lord she laughed within herself because she was beyond the child bearing years. She should have had the faith to trust God for with Him all things are possible.

**Application:**

Mom has there ever been a time when your faith was not perfect? You desire to have perfect faith so that you can be the model example for your children but you often fail.

**IV. She did not make perfect decisions.**

**Notice Genesis 16:1-4**

Here imperfect faith led her to make a very poor decision. She desired a child so much that her desire had led her into idolatry. She had come to believe that if she did not have a child she could never be happy and content.

**Application:**

Ladies let me ask you a question, "Have you ever made a poor decision?" Maybe you can relate to Sarah because you have made some decisions in your life that are irreversible and you are now living with the consequences. We have all made poor decisions in our lives. But there can still be joy in your life as we shall see.

**V. She did not have a perfect family.**

**Notice Genesis 21:8-12**

Ishmael mocked Isaac. Ishmael would be a teenager at this time. He saw all his hopes of an inheritance shattered because of the birth of Isaac. For this reason, he would have despised Isaac. So, there was tension in the family. The step son was fighting against the Promised son. Sarah had all she could take and she demanded that Abraham cast out Hagar and Ishmael. The thought of this broke his heart. Ishmael was his son.

**Application:**

This was a dysfunctional family. Have you ever experienced this kind of tension? It often happens at the holidays when everyone comes home and certain people have trouble existing under the same roof. When this time of the year rolls around you can feel the tension in the air. It places you on edge and you feel like you must walk on egg shells. Or maybe you can relate to Sarah because you also have a teenager in the house that is tough to deal with.

**So, there is the imperfect life of Sarah.**

1. **She did not have a perfect husband.**
2. **She did not have a perfect body.**
3. **She did not have a perfect faith.**
4. **She did not make perfect decisions.**
5. **She did not have a perfect family.**

But there was one thing that she could rejoice in.

**Notice Genesis 21:1-7**

Sarah could rejoice. Now this rejoicing was not because she gave birth to Isaac but it was because **SHE HAD A PERFECT SAVIOR.**

God had made a promise that she and Abraham would have a son and He was True to His promise. She had an imperfect life but she had a PERFECT GOD and in Him she could rejoice.

**Conclusion:**

**Philippians 4:11-13**

*<sup>11</sup> Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.*

*<sup>12</sup> I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.*

*<sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*