

**Salt Church**  
**Mother's Day**  
**"Em"**  
**May 10, 2026**

**David and Cindy (June 6-14)**

**My goal for today:**

- I want to glorify God through honoring His creation called "mother."
- **You should know:**
  - I have struggled with this sermon more than most
    - Not because there is any issue with my mother
      - **No,**
      - If anything, it is because of my relationship with my mother.
      - I have watched her for years
      - I have watched my own wife as she has "mothered"
      - I watch my own daughter as she "mothers"
      - I watch my daughter in law as she "mothers" children that don't belong to her
      - I watch Cindy Sharpless "mother" hundreds of children in Honduras
      - I watch my mother-in-law "mother" my wife and her siblings
      - I watch Carol May and Sandy, "mother" ladies that are not related to them.
        - The list goes on and on as I ponder Brenda, Rebecca, Katie, and Lynsey as they "mother" children that don't belong to them.

**\$50 question, Why?**

- Why do Godly women "mother?"
  - Who created this idea of "mother?"

**I know you know the answer**

- God the Father created "mother"
- It was His idea **that we would be loved and nurtured** by His creation called **mother.**

**Genesis 2:18**

***<sup>18</sup> The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."***

- From the beginning it was God's plan to make "mother"

**Genesis 2:22-24 we have the creation of "Mother"**

***<sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.***

<sup>23</sup> The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”

<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and **mother** and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

- There it is the first time “**Mother**” is used in the Bible.
  - Why does verse 24 say it that way?
    - Man leaves and is united or bonded to another?

### **Did you know:**

The Hebrew word that is translated as mother is “**em**”

- **Thus, the bag of M&M’s,**
  - ***I wanted all of the ladies to remember the word “EM”***
- **Pronunciation: em**  
**NASB: mother, mothers,**
- **Origin: [a primitive word]**
  1. **a mother (as the bond of the family)**
    - ***What a beautiful way to describe mothers.***

### **What do bonds do?**

- They hold things together

### **Genesis 2:24**

<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

- Do you see the transition from one bond to the other?
- There is a sense of sadness in that verse as the man leaves his father and mother (his 1<sup>st</sup> bond) and bonds with his wife.
- Here is what I know about mothers:
  - **She never stops being a mother**
    - The rules may have changed as to her authority, but she will never ever stop being “Em”

**So, we have Adam created and immediately he is put to work naming all the animals that God the Father has created.**

- He notices that each animal has a mate, a female version of the male and he begins to think “where’s my mate?”
- God the Father says to God the Son and God the holy Spirit, “It’s not good for him to be alone” then He creates a helper called woman.

### **Chapter 1 of Genesis is the overview of the 6 days of creation.**

- On day six He creates man
- Chapter 2 is a more detailed account of day 6 as it gives the details of Adam and Eve’s creations.
  - But in chapter 1 we hear Gods say these words in verse 27

### **Genesis 1:27**

***27 So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.***

**This tells us that both man and women were created in His image meaning both man and woman received attributes of God.**

- **Clearly, they are different** for God says in chapter 2 that it is not good that man be alone, **meaning something was missing within Adam.**
  - **Therefore,** we can conclude Eve (the 1<sup>st</sup> “Em”) will have attributes, desires, strengths, and weaknesses that Adam does not.
    - But both reflect who God is, especially prior to sin.

**We also know that nowhere in scripture is God referred to as God the mother.**

- He is always in the masculine meaning He is always a He.
  - But when we read scripture, **we see Him displaying His fierce love for His children like that of a mother.**

**Psalm 91:4**

***4 He will cover you with his feathers.  
He will shelter you with his wings.  
His faithful promises are your armor and protection.***

**In Psalms 91 God the Father** is pictured as a mother hen or mother goose protecting her chicks.

- Why?
  - Because even in nature there is nothing more fierce than a mother protecting her young.
    - YouTube is filled with videos of lionesses attacking male lions that get too rough with the cubs.
      - (King of the jungle?)
  - There are videos of grown men running from a mother goose who is protecting her young.

**Why do I bring this to your attention?**

- Because mothers are designed by God to be who they are.
  - And we can agree that God is the designer of all.

**Psalm 139:13-14**

***"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."***

**All of us who were blessed to have a good mother will agree that we have seen the passionate mother's heart come out when she felt like her baby was in danger.**

- That part of her is a gift from God

- It is an attribute of God given to her for His glory and our joy.

**There is another gift often associated with mothers and it too is a gift from God.**

- It is the gift of comfort.

***Isaiah 66:13 God says that he will comfort as a mother comforts  
"As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you."***

**I served for 35 years in public safety.**

- 24 of those 35 years I served as a paramedic.
- I saw people on their worst days.
- I saw countless numbers of people breath their last.
- I witnessed elderly men and women cry out to their mothers when they thought there was no hope.
  - **Why?**
    - Because so many of us have been blessed with mother's that protect and comfort no matter the circumstances.
      - Those attributes are gifts from the Father.

**Now, I do not know if Mother's Day was God's idea.**

- I do know what His word says as it relates to Mother's and Godly women.

***1 Peter 3:4***

***"You should be known for the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God."***

***Isaiah 49:15***

***"Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne?"***

- No, that bond between a child and a mother is real

***Proverbs 31:25***

***"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come."***

- Motherhood is not for sissy's

***Proverbs 31:26***

***"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."***

***Proverbs 31:28***

***"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:"***

- If he is a Godly husband he will get in the game
- Meaning, he will help her with the work of raising children

- He will help around the house
- He will ensure that she gets at least one day off a week.

**Proverbs 31:31**

*"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."*

- This one hit me a little differently than the others.
- *"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."*

**I can say without any doubt that I have watched the women in my life work very hard.**

- As a child I watched my mom run a business and raise three children with very little help until she married Daddy Ron when I was 16.
- Many of you may not know it but my mother was put in a position like many of you in this room.
  - My biological dad walked out when I was 4.
  - My mother (who was 25 yo) found herself with a 3 year old, a 4 year old, and a 6 year old with no home and no help from our biological father.
    - We lived with my grandmother for a short time until my mother's daycare business created enough revenue that we could move out.
      - As a daddy of two grown children, I have reflected on the sacrifices she made, **that my wife has made, my daughter is currently making.**
      - My assumption is that every "Em" here has made or is currently making.
        - **You desire a day like today.**
          - A day in which you can be honored
          - A day in which you can testify to Gods gift of strength and perseverance that sustained you during those never-ending days and nights that motherhood demanded of you.

***My hope is to encourage you today:***

- To remind you that the calling of "mother" or "Em" is a real calling on your life.
  - **Commissioned by God Himself so that the world could see a part of Him that should be seen.**

***Some of you remember the days in which your whole household was eager to change the world but wasn't willing to help you do the dishes.***

- **When the laundry looked more like a mountain** and no matter how hard you tried it just kept growing.
- When millions of toys can't seem to find their way back to the toy box.
- When bath time came when you were absolutely exhausted.
- When supper time was 30 minutes late and everyone in the house lets you know it.

- When your teenager comes to you at 9:30pm and ask for help on a school project that is due the next morning.
- When an exploding diaper changed everything.
- When a sick child changes the backside of your passenger seat and there is nothing you can do until you find a safe place to pullover.
- When your teenager was supposed to be home an hour ago and you have to be up early in the next morning.
  - Let me remind you that those moments that no one saw He saw them and has not forgotten them.
    - He received those moments as an act of worship.

**You may not see these as offerings to the Lord, but they are for Jesus Himself said that there is no greater love than he who lays down their life for another.**

- You may say, **but Pastor wasn't He talking about dying.**
  - **Yes,** He was, but He also commands us to die too self-daily.
    - **Meaning, when we give ourselves for the care of others we are never more like Jesus.**

**This train of thought carried my mind to other areas where “Em’s” are like God.**

- Mothers often are the chief disciplers of children
- They find themselves on the front line of carrying out the Great Commission.
  - With men working or just absent all together, mamas become the teachers of life.
  - (Like Timothy) It was my mother and grandmother that taught me how to pray.
  - It was my mother and grandmother that taught me how to have faith, especially when there seemed to be no hope.

**I can say that my wife most likely had more influence over my children than I did.**

- Why?
  - I have 2 jobs from 1988 to 2025.
    - **And there is no doubt that Jesus has called every man to be the priest, provider, and protector of their homes but at the same time God looked at man and said, “it is not good that he be alone, therefore I will create a helper for him.”**
      - **My point is that mothers are the unsung heroes of the faith.**

**So, ladies I need you to hear these next words:**

- **GOD SEES YOU AND YOU ARE A POWERFUL FORCE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IF YOU CHOOSE TO BE.**

**Why would I say, “If you choose to be?”**

- Because of the way Deuteronomy 4:9 is written  
***"Only be careful and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them."***

This is Moses' farewell address and before he goes to Paradise he reminds the parents of their responsibility to teach their children the word of God.

Moses says it again in Deuteronomy 6:6-7

***"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."***

**Obedience is a choice but not just for mothers, the children have an obligation to respond as well:**

***Ephesians 6:1-3***

***Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."***

***Proverbs 29:15***

***The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.***

**Children of all ages can be either a blessing or a source of shame to their mothers.**

- All of it rest upon obedience of disobedience.

**Final thoughts as we honor our mothers:**

- Being a mother is full of transitions
- 1<sup>st</sup> transition is often to the body that no longer looks the same after having kids
- Then the other transitions occur naturally:
  - Dirty kids transition into clean kids
  - Hungry kids transition into satisfied kids
  - Nursing babies transition into fast moving 3-year-olds
  - Dirty clothes transition into clean clothes
  - Dirty homes transition into clean homes
  - Busy homes eventually transition into quiet homes as children become adults
  - Mothers often transition into grandmothers and great grandmothers
  - **But the most important transition of all is when "Em" "Mom" sees her baby transition from "lost" to "saved."**
    - Suddenly all the sacrifice
      - **All the transitions become worth it for nothing could be more satisfying for the Godly woman.**

### *Why?*

- Because this is where legacy is born.
  - This is where generations upon generation find Christ and the neat thing about this is often it begins with a **God-fearing God loving woman** that died to herself and **lived for the Glory of her God and the joy of serving her children and the children who had no mother.**

### *Yes, “EM” is the perfect word for Mother*

- For often she is the “bond” that God uses to hold the family together and in that bond, generations learn who God is because she was faithful in her calling as “EM”.

### *Let’s pray*