

**May 8 | Sunday**  
**The God of Second Chances:**  
**“Moms Who Met Jesus”**



**09 | Mon – Elizabeth** | Read [Luke 1:5-16, 24-25, 57-66](#)

In that time and place, many people viewed childlessness as punishment for some sin. Echoing the story of Abraham/Sarah in Genesis, a divine messenger told Zechariah that his barren wife Elizabeth would have a son, that the child would be named John, and that he would be great in the sight of the Lord. Elizabeth’s patience was rewarded with more than she expected because she continued to trust God even when He seemed silent.

**10 | Tue – Mary** | Read [Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-7](#)

The angel told Mary that she would be the mother of the Messiah. This ‘highly favored’ life as Jesus’ mother brought great challenges, starting with how to explain her pregnancy and eventually leading her to the foot of the cross where her innocent son breathed his last breath. A life following God’s direction may involve sacrifice. Would you be as willing as Mary was, saying “I am the Lord’s servant...may your words to me be fulfilled.”?

**11 | Wed – The Widow** | Read [Luke 7:11-17](#)

Under Jewish law, a widow did not have legal standing to own property or sustain herself, unless she had a male relative to take care of her. Losing her only son not only ripped out this unnamed widow’s heart but it was an economic disaster. Jesus took great pity on her and restored her son to life. Was this a preview to the day when Jesus restores all lost children to their mothers’ arms?

**12 | Thu – Zebedee’s Wife** | Read [Matthew 20:20-28](#)

Ambition seems natural to almost all human hearts, and sometimes it is more for our children than for ourselves. The motives behind ambition can be mixed, and often create unhealthy expectations of our children. Are you as motivated to see your children glorify God and serve others as to see them achieve fame and fortune? Your greatest gift to your family might be the life you model as an authentic follower of Jesus.

**13 | Fri – A Canaanite Mother** | Read [Matthew 15:21-28](#)

A mother asked Jesus for her daughter’s healing and her faith was strong enough to overcome the prejudices between the Jews and the Canaanites. Jesus saw her persistence, testing it to see if her faith was real, before healing her daughter. Persistent prayer is often more for our benefit than God’s. Perseverance reveals our own motivations. Don’t give up when it seems like you aren’t being heard. Because you are!

**14 | Sat – Jesus’ Example** | Read [John 19:25-27](#)

By this time, Mary’s husband Joseph was dead and, as the oldest son, Jesus was responsible for her. His biological half-brothers did not yet believe in him, so in the midst of his suffering, Jesus provided for his mother by asking one of his most faithful disciples to care for her. What a wonderful example! Flowers are nice but after Mother’s Day is over, what actions will you take to show that you honor your mother? Exodus 20:12

**May 15 | Sun – The God of Second Chances: Disciples Who Denied Jesus**



**Hastings United Methodist Church**