

Sunday, May 14, 2023 - "Mother's Day 2023" - Ally Turner & Dr. Stacey Lemanski

Key Passages: Genesis 1:26, Genesis 2:18, Judges 4:1-8, Luke 8:1-3, Luke 24:6-11, Romans 12:6-8

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

#### Main Ideas

- Eve = life (the matriarch)
  - Genesis 1:26 - us/our = Trinity, unity and diversity
  - Genesis 1 = high level view of creation, man + woman → authority over the Earth
  - Genesis 2:18 - one thing isn't good
    - Eve is the perfect fit for Adam
    - Helper suitable = Ezer Kenegdo (Hebrew) = to save, rescue, to be strong + suitable or corresponding to
    - Women reflect God's image in unique and particular ways
- Identity is certain and secure and does not change
- Genesis 3
  - Eve doubts God (God put up boundaries) and chose control of over trusting God
  - Adam stood by passively
  - Consequences have marred all that is Good...equality, unity, diversity
  - The enemy will lure you to think some "apple" is better than what God has
- Deborah (a judge during the time between death of Joshua and anointing of King Saul)
  - Judges 4:1-8..a judge, a prophetess, a mother of Israel
  - Reconciling Judges and 1 Timothy 2 (not a contradiction)
    - In Timothy to teach (in the Greek) → to abuse or usurp authority
    - Deborah would have been like a court judge but also something like the president
    - Deborah was a woman God trusted
  - She was a mother to Israel
    - She did things to make it right for her people
    - God calls us to birth life in one another
- Mary Magdalene - she was healed → complete devotion
  - Luke 8:1-3 - sold out generosity and devotion
  - Luke 24:6-11 - The honor of witnessing and proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus (no one believed her at first)
  - God sees you and hears you
- Mary, mother of Jesus - a teen with her whole life ahead of her, a woman of courage who said yes to God
  - Luke 2:4...she was one who suffered well
  - She experienced extreme grief from all that Jesus had to go through
  - What caused her suffering gave us all salvation
  - Sorrow may be part of motherhood...God can take suffering and redeem it for good
- Romans 12:6-8
- Judges 5 - Deborah and Barack played their roles and did what God asked and then the land had peace for 40 years

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How have you experienced men and women representing the image of god together?
2. How has the enemy lured you to think some other "apple" is better than what God has for you?
3. How is God calling you to birth life in someone else like Deborah did as a mother of Israel?
4. How has God taken your suffering and redeemed it for good?
5. What has God shown you about your role in His kingdom?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this message or passage?

**Songs from the weekend:**

[Again I Say Rejoice - *Israel Houghton*] - [Jesus We Love You - *Bethel Music*] - [Ascribe - *Cory Asbury*] - [Jireh - *Maverick City/Elevation Worship*]