

Daughters of the King

All women are very different from one another. Some are mothers, and some are not. Some of are married and some are not. Some are grandmothers, others are not. There are various ages, tall, short, blond, brunet... and redhead. We all are a different combination of traits, roles, interests & abilities. We each have our own unique sense of style that shows in how we dress and in how we do things. We also have a variety of strengths and weaknesses

Consider the following women.

- *Miriam, Moses' sister (Exodus 2:1-10), helped save her brother's life & later participated in his ministry as he led the Israelites out of captivity.*
- *Martha & Mar, Lazarus' sisters and Jesus' friends (Luke 10:38-42), help us learn lessons about focusing on Jesus as opposed to temporary things.*
- *Ruth's loyalty to Naomi when she was under no obligation is inspiring (Book of Ruth).*
- *Mother Theresa is described as "a person of profound prayer with deep love for her religious sisters and students, Mother Theresa's twenty years in Loreto were filled with genuine happiness. Noted for her charity, unselfishness and courage, her capacity for hard work and talent for organization, she lived out her consecration to Jesus, in the midst of her companions, with fidelity and joy."*

All of these women are known for what they did WHEN THEY WERE NOT MARRIED OR MOTHERS. They all showed qualities that God placed in women as nurturers, companions, caretakers, supporters & comforters.

So what we all have in common with these women as well as with each other? Simply that we are all women & daughters. God placed those same qualities in us to be nurturers, companions, caretakers, supporters and comforters. Because Christ lives within us, we have a unique way as women of serving Him.

As women we instinctually know how to mother. Mothering is treating someone with great care and affection as you would a small child. It's a special kind of gentleness that comes with being a woman. Just watch a young girl with babies or small children, and you can grasp the idea that being a mother is more than just a

matter of giving birth. There's something deeper (or perhaps higher is a better word) that's involved. Mothering seems instinctual for women, even if they don't have children of their own. Sure, modeling plays a part, but it builds on what God has already placed in us as women. This idea of mothering actually gets at the original reason for the creation of Mother's Day thousands of years ago by the Greeks

As daughters, we probably all have very different backgrounds. Being a daughter invokes mixed memories, some good and some bad, for most people. We come from imperfect parents, and we ourselves are imperfect. For good or bad, children form opinions of themselves through the eyes of their parents. But fortunately, for ALL OF US being a daughter also includes being a DAUGHTER OF THE KING. As daughters of the King, we can see ourselves through the eyes of perfection

- 1 John 3:1 – “How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!”

God fills the gaps of imperfection that we all have living this side of Heaven. He is the perfect Father who dotes on His daughters.

What does being a daughter of the King mean? (Psalm 45:9-15) Some Biblical scholars say Psalm 45 was likely written for an actual king (possibly Solomon) for his wedding. Most agree that it is a prophecy about Christ and His bride, the church. We are part of the royal family of Heaven as daughters of the King. As royalty, we have a tremendous inheritance!

As daughters of THE KING, we are all...

- Glorious – Romans 8:17 – “Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”
- Beautiful – Referring to our external (because we are ALL beautiful) but placing emphasis and increased significance on our internal beauty. – 1 Peter 3:3-4 – “Your adornment must not be merely external – braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.”

- Noble. You are royalty as a daughter of the King. – 1 Peter 2:9 – “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”
- Surrounded by gladness & rejoicing – Psalm 30:11-12 – “You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness. That my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.”
- Valuable – Psalm 139:13-14 – “For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother’s womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” – Psalm 8:5 – “You have made man a little lower than God. And you crown him with glory and majesty.”

We are part of this royal procession that we read about in Psalm 45 as the church (the bride) prepares to meet its groom – The King. If you look up this scripture in your Bible, you’ll see a reference to Lilies at the beginning of the chapter. Some scholars think this refers to a musical instrument. Some believe it was a style of singing or song, perhaps the title of a melody. Others think it was an instruction for how to sing a song. We know that the Lily was used in ceremonies seeking a word from God. It has also been used to designate a love song. The Lily has also been associated with royalty, being used in the French Monarchy as well as on many royal coats of arms throughout history.

Like Psalm 45, Hosea 14:15 shows the Lily as a foreshadowing of Christ, but Hosea indicates He will “blossom like the Lily.” Why is this analogy of Christ being like a Lily important? Ephesians describes Christ’s sacrifice like a sweet smelling aroma. The Lily is described as the whitest flower, which is why it represents purity, thus aptly portraying the purity of Jesus. The beautiful, tall flower head hanging depicts Jesus’ humility (Philippians 2:6-8). The hearty root, which can support up to fifty bulbs, speaks directly to the death, resurrection and the fruit brought forth from the singular sacrifice of the Son of God. (John 15:8 and 1 John 12:24). The trumpet shape of the flower itself, symbolizes the heralding (or glorifying) of Jesus, himself.

Because of Jesus' purity and holiness, because of His humility, because of His sacrifice, and because of His glory – because we are His daughters – we can also connect who we are with the Lily. Because of what He is and has done for us, we are a part of this royal ceremony that we read about in Psalm 45.

One of my most vivid memories as a child comes from the smell of Easter Lilies when we arrived for Sunrise Service every year on Easter. I can still remember that smell and the festive atmosphere of that day. As faith matures, we can better understand childhood memories such as that one. As we talk about Lilies and the spiritual meanings behind them, I can connect that childhood memory with Christ reaching out to me as His daughter when I was very young. Even then when my faith and my body were A LOT younger, He was lavishing His love on me as His daughter. He was showing me the truths that we have talked about today.

As an adult, those joyous feelings that I had as a child not only still exist, but they are stronger and more intense because I more fully understand what He did for me. We can now more fully understand what he did for each one of us, and how that gives us ALL have the right to be called Daughters of the King. We can better grasp what His royal blood brings to our lives. Our royal status brings us an invaluable inheritance:

- Romans 8 – You are an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ*
- 1 Corinthians 9:25 – You have a crown that will last forever!*
- Exodus 19:5 – You are a treasured possession.*
- Ephesians 1:4 – You were chosen before the creation of the world.*
- Ephesians 2:10 – You were made for a purpose.*
- Jeremiah – God formed, knows and has good plans for you.*
- Psalm 139 – You were fearfully and wonderfully made.*

Let the Lily remind you of your value and worth to your Heavenly Father because of what Jesus did for you, His daughter. Let it remind you that YOU ARE glorious, beautiful, noble, surrounded by gladness and rejoicing, and immensely valuable. Let it remind you that this is your value BECAUSE you are a daughter of THE MOST HIGH KING.