

## **Mother's Day 2019**

Making a Difference In Someone's Life

Mark 1:40-45

### **I. Thoughts About What Moms Do For Their Children**

- A.** Lots of influence and impact people in our lives
  - Dads
  - Teachers
  - Coaches
  - Extended families
  - Siblings
  - Peers
  - Mentors
  - Etc.
- B.** Research shows that out of all the people impacting a person's life no one makes a bigger difference in their life than their Mom.
  - Under normal conditions
  - Time spent
  - Observation/example
  - Care and love shown
  - Interest
  - Continuing concern throughout life
  - Etc.
- C.** Premise: the kind of difference a Mom makes in her children's lives is the model for ministry as Christians serve the world!

### **II. Example of Jesus**

- A.** The story – Mark 1:40-45  
"A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter."

- B.** A man with leprosy
- C.** Came begging to Jesus
- D.** "If you want to, you can make a difference in my life"
- E.** Questioned not Jesus' ability, but His desire
- F.** You couldn't blame Jesus if He didn't want to
  - Contagious
  - Unclear
  - Excluded too
- G.** Filled with compassion
- H.** Reached out and said "welcome back to the human race."
- I.** Clean again
- J.** Keep this between you and God
- K.** Of course, tells everyone

### **III. Thoughts**

- A.** The leper came to Jesus. Too many times we try to make a difference in someone's life before they are ready.
- B.** The man knew Jesus could, he wanted to know if he would. Before you try to make a difference you have to be able to or else you are just meddling. Moms seem to always know what's needed.
- C.** Compassion comes first. You have to care. Do you care enough? Mom's always do.
- D.** God's presence in us gives us the power to say: I can and I will
  - Philippians 2:12-13  
"Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure."
  - Serious stuff
  - God is at work in you
  - To will – desire
  - To work - ability
- E.** So that each of us can be like a Mom and be like Jesus and make a difference in someone's life.