

Mother's Day Message: How to live with disappointment, shame, and unfulfilled dreams By Lucinda Davidoff May 10, 2020

Mother's Day is a day that we take to honor mothers. Those that have GIVEN life and those that have NURTURED life. Those that have given birth and those that haven't. Those that have been born with that innate gift of wanting to give love and be a motherly figure to those around them. Those women who see the weak and nurture them to strength, who see the lonely, and befriend them, those that have eyes to see and ears to hear the orphans and the widows. Those that have mouths to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. Those that love nature and those that love their animals! We are all so very different.

Today I honor the Mother who keeps on giving, the sister that keeps on loving. The friend that keeps on believing, the little girl that keeps on smiling, even though she is hiding a secret, some deep pain. The wife that keeps being faithful, despite the shame of unfaithfulness.

Today I want to speak to my fellow girlfriends.

I have had the privilege this week to connect with a few different women and moms from ALL walks of life. Some are single girls- that are aching to be married. I chatted to married girlfriends that don't yet have babies but are longing to be a mom. Moms that are grieving for their sons who they once had BIG dreams for but are now seemingly hopelessly lost in addiction. Women that are in a place in life that they did not anticipate being in.

And my heart cries out for those woman who all once had different dreams and aspirations and are now mourning an death of a loved one, a unfulfilled dream, a financial position or a relational disappointment that they had NEVER planned for in their lives that is somehow causing them pain or loss or hopelessness

I would like to speak to those women and my message is titled **How to live with disappointment, shame and unfulfilled dreams.**

I'd like us to reference some of the many women of the bible that had learned how to live life in the face of major life disappointments and pain or events in their lives that defined them.

Lets start with the **woman with the issue of blood**. She was once an energetic, life giving influential woman in society, she had money and status. And then out of no where one month her bleeding doesn't stop...at first she thinks nothing of it, I'll go to the next doctor in town...but she soon realizes, doctor after doctor, that these doctors DO NOT have the answers.

When she walked into the market place – how the people would whisper- “you know she once was wealthy – but look at her now – a poor wretched woman...she's lost all her money and she is UNCLEAN- stay away from her- keep 6 feet away from her!!’ How did she get there – from influential , filled with dreams for her business and her family's prosperity to literally being SHUNNED in the market?

Or **Rahab the prostitute**....Yes she once was a prostitute that is true- But that was years ago. Before she met the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He had changed the way she viewed life and lived life....he changed her from the inside out- she now valued herself , loved herself and then found true love Salmon.

Yet her critics never forgot ...look at Rahab you know what she did for a living? These whispers and labels and rumors always surfaced somehow. Why couldn't they forget her deep dark secret...

Leah the unloved wife, who tried to buy her husbands love by having children- if only he would love her , life would be so different.

I think of **Hannah, the woman that was barren**, how Peninah taunted her day and night, flaunting her children in front of Hannah and laughing at the curse on her- surely she must have done something wrong to deserve this. But Peninah's taunting only drove her deeper into her search for the true answer....the taunting didn't matter, she was desperate for a child.

Mary, the 14 year old virgin, who said yes to God, but became the girl who got pregnant out of wedlock...AND everyone started asking questions

Bathsheeba, Uriah's wife , who lost her first baby tragically and was guilty of adultery- would she always be Uriah's wife- why did they keep calling her Uriah's wife

So many **COMPLICATED** and unplanned events.

But you see it's the nagging and the pulling and the tugging of the shame- it's the voice of your critics, it's the whispers of your unfulfilled dreams that will either destroy you or drive you to your true destiny.

What got you here It may be your own wrong decisions and bad thinking that got you into the situation that you now have to live with

It may be a parents bad decisions or abusive behaviors towards you

It may be a child's rebellion that caused you pain

It could be a traumatic event that happened that now seems like it cannot be undone

You may be mulling over and over in your mind- How did I get here? Why did I get here? Why did God allow this to happen to me? Why is God allowing me to go through this. Why didn't he choose me....

There may be a thousand ways to get into a bad space in your life but there's only ONE way to truly get out!

Lets read John chapter 8 about one such woman

John 8:1 (NKJV) But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. **3** Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, **4** they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. **5** Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such

should be stoned. But what do You say?" **6** This they said, testing Him, that they might have *something* of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with *His* finger, as though He did not hear.

7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "**He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.**" **8** And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. **9** Then those who heard *it*, being convicted by *their* conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest *even* to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. **10** When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "**Woman, where are those accusers of yours?** Has no one condemned you?"

11 She said, "No one, Lord."

And Jesus said to her, "**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**"

1) FACE THE TRUTH

-Today I want you to know that you can Face the Truth, Truth has a name; His name is Jesus

The woman caught In the act of adultery was so blessed, cause she faced her truth with Jesus

John 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. **32** And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

What does God say about you and your situation... there is a truth that will unlock your freedom! And it's found in the Word....

For this woman caught in the act of adultery, Facing the truth was **FACING JESUS IN THE MIDST OF HER PAIN**

See His eyes of love towards you in your pain

Take your shame to Jesus and hear His words: I do not condemn you....
What does that mean – You have not been given the death sentence
It means You are free
It means You have an amazing future inspite of your sin OR inspite of
your rejection or death of a loved one

2) DON'T NURTURE THE PAIN

As woman we were created to nurture BUT when its pain we are nurturing, we perpetuate sorrow

- As you meditate on the problem you keep reliving the pain and actually worsen the trauma
- If pain gets down in you and you don't get the word down in you - you will keep the pain alive
- Stop crying the same tears
- Jesus said to the woman "Go" your way now....it's over I forgive you ...I do not accuse you
- That means MOVE ON! LET IT GO!! FORGIVE THEM!!!
- Stop participating in the problem by thinking about it and talking about it
- Stop FOCUSING on the problem and start focusing on the solution
- Call those things that are not as though they are
- Leave the past behind you...."Go, and sin no more" means- Its time to move on !!!
- Move onto what?
- Go and live a life of purpose in My kingdom....

Philippians 3:13 “Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, **14** I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”

3) DON'T SUPPRESS THE PAIN- CONFRONT THE PAIN

John 8:4 they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.

This womans adultery was bought into the light and Jesus could deal with it.

- The other side to nursing the pain is hiding the pain, pretending it did not happen
- What are you hiding ? What are you not dealing with
- If you keep that pain suppressed and undealt with AND pretend it never happened it will surface when it is triggered, especially when you are vulnerable, and it will be UGLY
- We need to acknowledge that it happened and that it was wrong!! Or else will continue to be abused
- It will come out in your behavior
- Whatever you want to overcome you have to confront
- Truth brings deliverance!!!!
- If you have deal with it, it has NO MORE power over you

- When they accuse you It will fuel you instead of discourage you
- They will always whisper
- But those whispers will STOP affecting you!
- Deal with the fact that you have sinned
- Admit that you were abused- face that fact
- Deal with the fact that your husband cheated on you
- Confront your miserable marriage and say NO MORE! Find Gods promise of an abundant life and start living the life God planned for you
- Draw your boundaries and stop being a doormat
- Then FORGIVE yourself, your abuser, your parents so you can be free
- Before you can go into the next level you have to deal with your past/ cut your losses and value yourself and move forward

4) STOP MAKING EXCUSES, OR OPTING OUT OF THE WORK IT TAKES TO OVERCOME

Jesus knew the woman caught in the act of adultery had a long way to go still- she would have to deal with her guilt and face her accusers again in the market place

But Jesus had forgiven her and loved her and set her up to overcome! To look her accusers in the eye and say I am not that girl anymore, I know who I am. You can say what you want! I am loved and I am forgiven!

1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

- We don't fight to win we fight to stay in faith, we fight to keep believing
- Staying in faith means you have to read your bible and get to know who God is
- You need to pour over scripture and research areas where you struggle and find solutions for your problems in the word of God
- The word of God, in conjunction with Holy Spirit is like a navigation system it will tell you where to Go and where to turn and where to stop- and you need to obey if you want to get where you desire to go!!
- Want a victorious marriage? Follow God's model in the word
- Keep calling in that Goldly husband
- Let go of that uncommitted boyfriend and find yourself a husband
- Stop saying "Its never going to change, life is hard.....and start saying what God says in His word
- The enemy wants to discourage us- don't make agreements with him
- If that spirit of depression comes don't invite it in and feel sorry for yourself

James Submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee!

- It takes self control to overcome with the help of the Holy Spirit
- Some of you had a bad season but the season is over
- I call you out of your grieving!!!
- You have got to believe that God has something else for you!!

5) THE FORCE THAT WILL MOVE YOU FROM DEFEAT TO VICTORY IS FAITH

Hebrews 11:6 NASB "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

- You have to believe that God is able to SAVE you from your misery, that he can deliver you from your depression, you have to BELIEVE that change is possible
- Change is possible IN you
- Your performance will always fail you, cause your good works are not good enough
- But God's finished work is COMPLETE
- God's finished work is MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR YOU

6) TAKE SMALL STEPS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Psalm 37:23 "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delights in his way."

- Start somewhere - surround yourself with those that will help you overcome - that will believe with you and strengthen your faith
- Rome wasn't built in a day, change takes time, be patient with yourself and be patient with others
- start prophesying the change you want to see –

- the battle is inside you On one hand you have the faith on the other hand you feel you will never make it....
- Don't go with your feelings! Go with your faith
- you need your critics to say what they are saying-it will fuel you but it will also keep you humble – you will remember where you come from.
- Feed the voice of faith AND not the voice of fear
- Every person that has made it in life has faced some form of controversy - live with it!! And keep winning in the face of your opposition.
- Grace doesn't operate through those that have it all together!! Grace operates through FAITH
- Your past is a reminder of where you came from and that your were saved by GRACE not by your own greatness- it keeps you HUMBLE AND APPROACHABLE

7) BE CONSISTENT, BE STEADFAST

1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **9** Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. **10** But may the God of all grace, who called [e]us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. **11** To Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- Don't be surprised by RESISTANCE and PERSECUTION and SUFFERING!

Matthew 5:11 "Blessed **are you when** people reproach. **you, persecute you,** and **say** all kinds of. evil against **you** falsely, for my sake.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

- Don't wobble when you are persecuted, expect it
- How? Plug in with radical, like minded people that will keep you on track
- Don't just start in the right direction , keep consistently going in that direction
- Be part of a word based and spirit filled church
- Write down the vision you have for your situation and stick to the game plan of walking in the truth God shows you to walk in to GET out of that situation