



Loving

May 8, 2022

Philippians 2:1-5; 12-13 (MSG)

Connect

- It's Mother's Day! Every person has a different connection to this day and what it holds depending on their relationship to motherhood. Many celebrate the gift of their mothers and others struggle deeply with that relationship. Others long to be mothers or are estranged from their children. Many grieve this day what it means to have lost their mother or child in any way. Share your relationship with this day. What meaning does it hold for you?

Engage

- Read *Philippians 2:1-5; 12-13* from *The Message* translation of the Bible. There is a lot of powerful wisdom spewing forth in this short passage from Paul's letter to the church at Philippi. Choose a word or phrase that sticks out to you in a first reading of the passage. Why do you think that stands out to you at this current moment in your life?
- Does Paul's instruction sound a bit like a mother's hope? He says, "*Get along. Stay Together. Change the world.*" Is it that simple? Discuss.
- Mark quoted Adonica Coleman in her conference speech when she said the one thing a leader needs to know to lead well is simply this: "*Understand the assignment.*" A leader who understands the assignment knows the way, shows the way and goes the way. What do you see as your *assignment* in this world?
- Have you ever lost sight of the assignment or felt you were in too deep a mess to get after it? How did you respond in such a season?
- Where did you learn about good stewardship? Did your mother or someone else instill in you the gift of generosity?
- What do you think Paul means when he says, "*Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God.*"

Next Steps

- Take a moment to thank your mom or a mother figure in your life today. Someone has helped nurture you into the person you are. Who instilled those strongest and healthiest qualities? Share your gratitude with that/those person(s).
- This is Commitment Week! Consider making a pledge to support the ministry we share at Broadway Christian Church. Your intended commitments help us faithfully plan the budget for the next ministry/fiscal year which begins shortly. Contact Ingrid Luckenbill at the church office if you have questions about how to pledge. Thank you!

Pray

"We understand your assignment to love you, God, and to love our neighbors well. Strengthen us in this assignment and give us what we need to lead the way forward in our homes and our communities. Thank you for the strong women in our lives who have mothered us in, and toward, this endeavor. Amen."