

Pondering

March 29 Read: John 19:25-27 Maple Melder-Crozier

I have a son about the age that Jesus was at his death. And as a mom, I can't imagine how Mary endured it! How could she follow in the crowd during his arrest and mock trial? How could she stand there at the foot of the cross and watch soldiers crucify her son? But how could she not watch? That was her son.

If it was me instead of Mary, and my son up there being charged unjustly, I would be doing something—anything—everything! But that was a different time.

Mary knew of her son's mission. She had seen the miracles of His journey. His life was being poured out helping the very ones who betrayed Him. She also knew He had predicted His own death. Like the others around Him she must have struggled accepting His words, but she must have known what was coming. We read in Luke 2:19, 33, & 52 that she pondered all these things—thought about them. But did she comprehend the magnitude of them?

John 19: 25-27 tells us how Jesus, from His cross, acknowledged his mom. Even in His agony, Jesus was thinking about her. It must have broken her heart. She had cared for Him His entire life but now could do nothing. Yet there He was trying to take care of her.

Jesus' death was God's will and a plan of God's grace. Knowing it was God's will didn't change her suffering, or His! Only His grace could allow her to endure. Treasuring this in her heart was her source of comfort and strength. In difficult times, His grace is all we have to hold on to, and it is enough for now as it was for Mary (see Hebrews 13:5, 6).

Prayer: Father, calm my anxious spirit. I am too eager to fix it on my own. I know your grace is sufficient. Help my unbelief. AMEN.
