

The Decision to be a Disciple is...



...speak the truth in love,
growing in every way more
and more like Christ, who
is the head of his body,
the church.

(Ephesians 4:15)



Every disciple is a
believer...



Every disciple is a
believer...

but not every believer
is necessarily a
disciple.

The Decision to be a Disciple is...



1. The First Requirement of Discipleship:

Love Jesus More Than
Anyone Else in Your
Life



"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."

(Luke 14:26)

1. Love God More than Anyone Else in Your Life

Anyone who does not provide
for their relatives, and
especially for their own
household, has denied the faith
and is worse than an
unbeliever.

(I Timothy 5:8)

1. Love God More than Anyone Else in Your Life

Hyperbole

hy·per·bo·le
/hī'perbelē/

HYPERBOLE
IS WITHOUT A DOUBT THE
SINGLE
GREATEST THING
IN THE HISTORY OF
THE UNIVERSE

Noun

Exaggerated statements
or claims not meant to
be taken literally.

“If your right eye
causes you to sin, poke
it out and throw it
away.”

(Matthew 5:30, CEV)

1. Love God More than Anyone Else in Your Life





Love of Family




Your love for Christ should be so strong
that your love for others is like hatred
by comparison.

If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine.

(Matthew 10:37, NLT)

1. Love God More than Anyone Else in Your Life



Loving Jesus more than
friends and family often
leads friends and family
to loving Jesus.

1. Love God More than Anyone Else in Your Life

2. A Test of Devotion



I know, my God, that you
test people's hearts. You
are happy when people
do what is right.

(1 Chronicles 29:17, NCV)

2. A Test of Devotion

Abraham & Isaac



2. A Test of Devotion

Abraham & Isaac

Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

(Genesis 22:2)



2. A Test of Devotion



“Don’t kill your son or hurt him in any way. Now I can see that you trust God and that you have not kept your son, your only son, from me.” (Genesis 22:12, NCV)



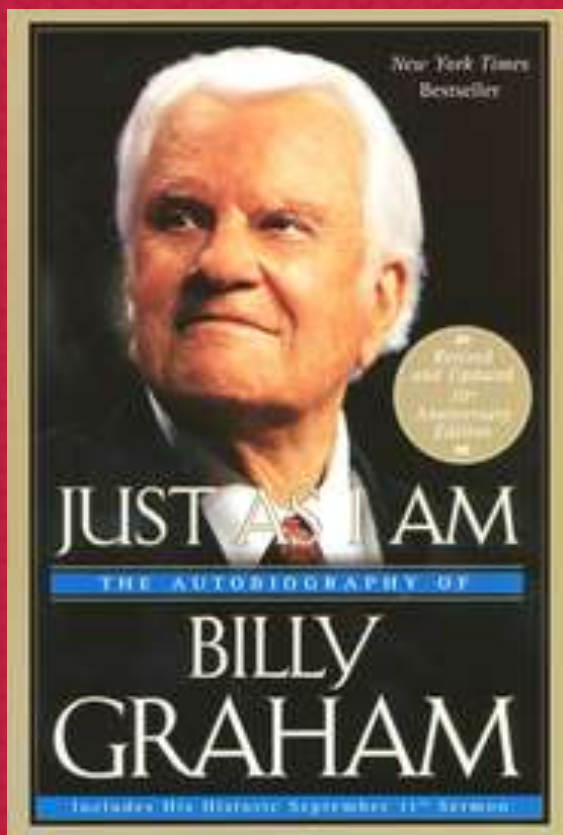
"God stepped in to save
both father and son
from the consequences
of an uncleansed love.
Everything is safe which
we commit to Him, and
nothing is really safe
which is not so
committed."

A.W. Tozer

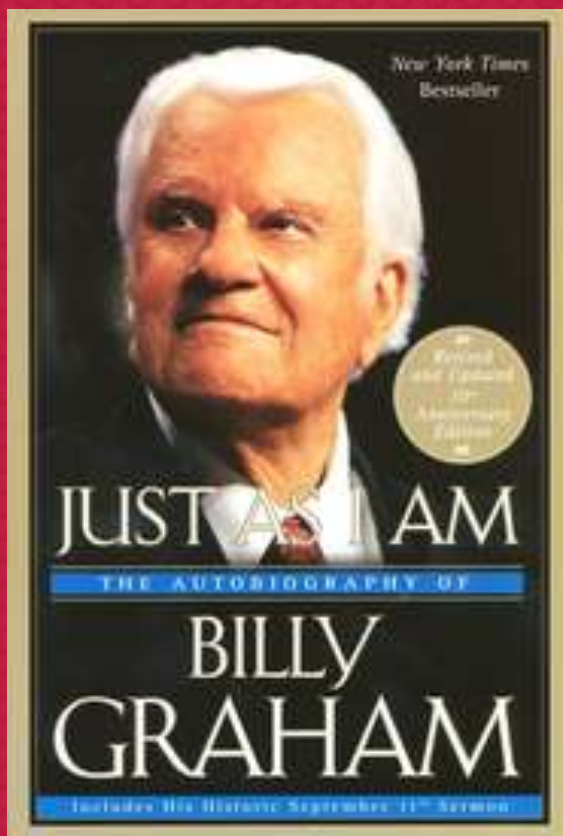
3. Love God More Than Anyone Else
in Your Life, But...

Don't Ignore Your
Family





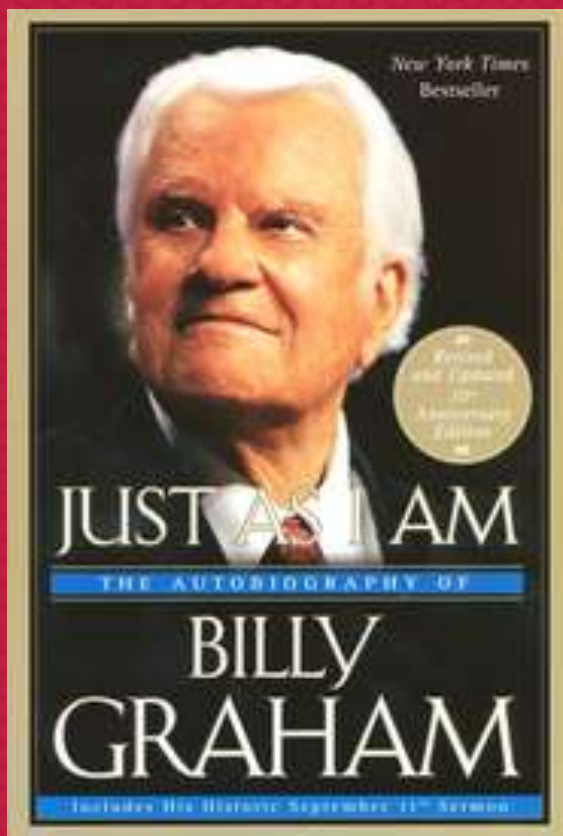
3. Don't Ignore Your Family



“On the last night of the crusade, my sister and brother-in-law came up for the meeting. I greeted them and admired the baby my sister was holding. ‘Whose baby is this?’ I asked.”

Just As I Am, pg. 157

3. Don't Ignore Your Family



“My sister told
me it was my
own daughter,
Anne.”

Just As I Am, pg. 157

3. Don't Ignore Your Family

We can honor the
call to discipleship
and still love our
families.

3. Don't Ignore Your Family

Then he returned to Nazareth with them
and was obedient to them; and his
mother stored all these things in her
heart. (Luke 2:48-51, NLT)

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❖ Jesus lingered at the temple, but
came home when His mother
called Him.

3. Don't Ignore Your Family

The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother spoke to him about the problem. "They have no more wine," she told him. "How does that concern you and me?" Jesus asked. "My time has not yet come." But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

(John 2:3-5, NLT)

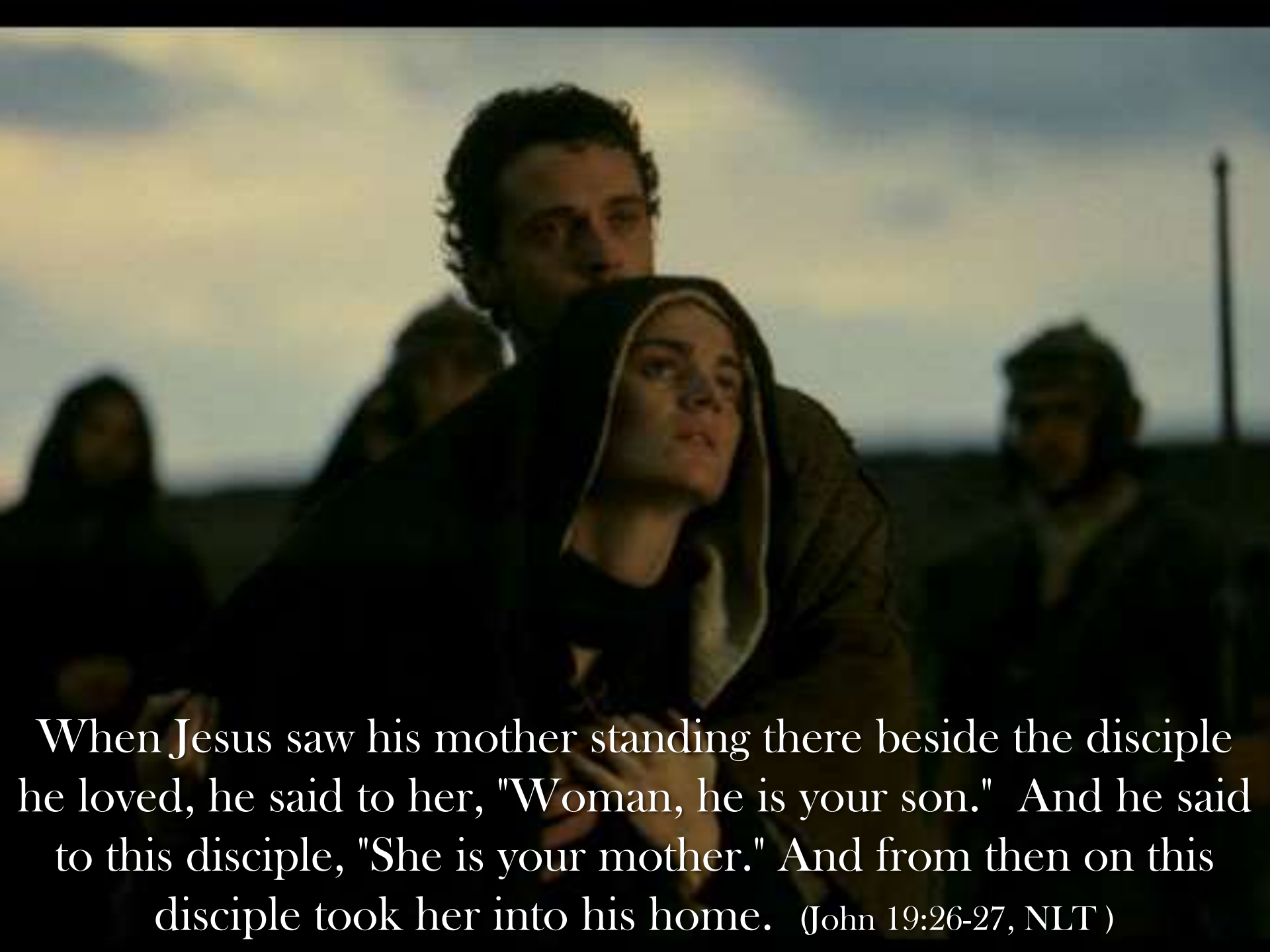
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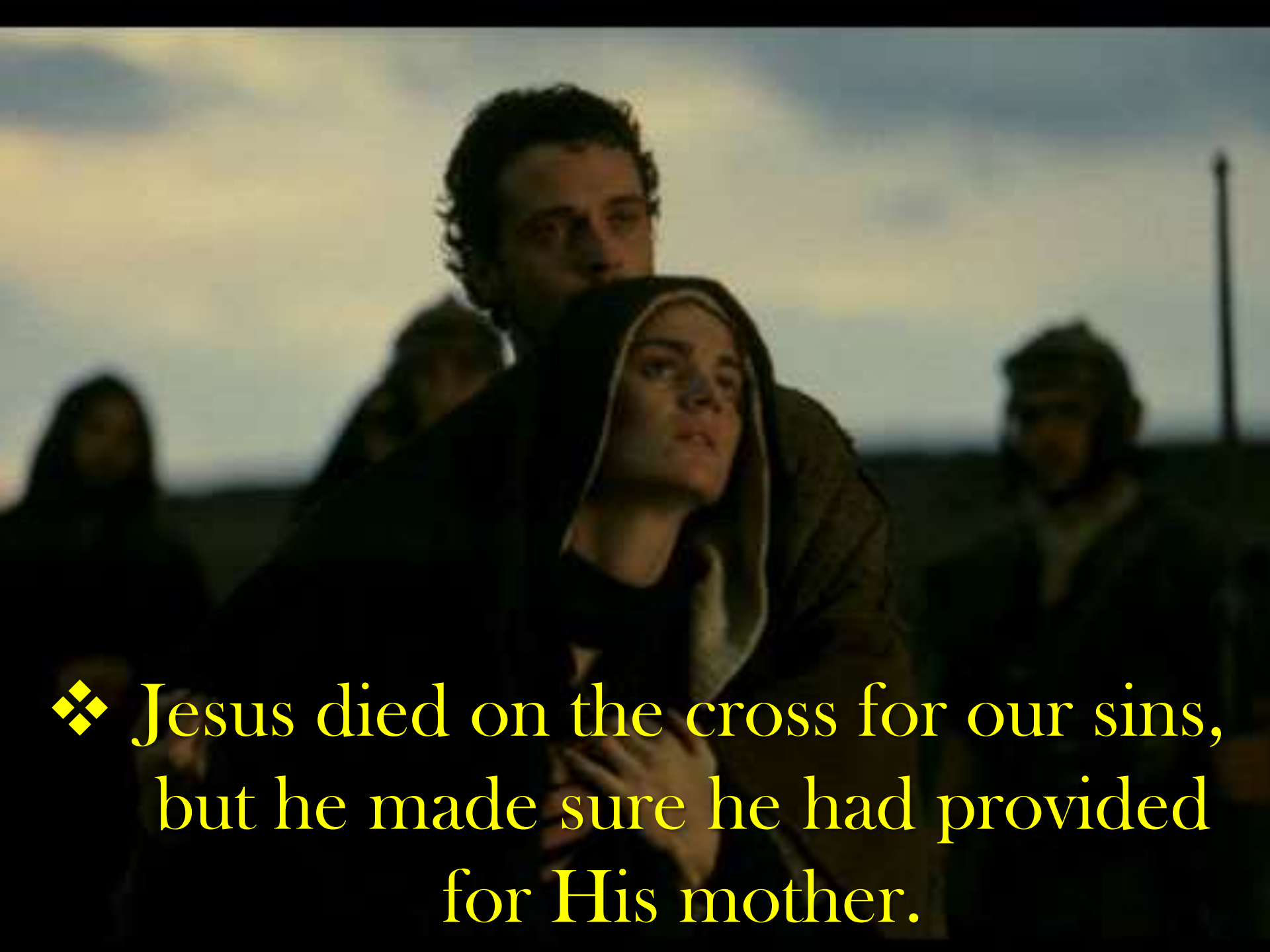
(John 2:3-5, NLT)

❖ Jesus submitted to God's timing, but still helped His mother at the wedding.

3. Don't Ignore Your Family



When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Woman, he is your son." And he said to this disciple, "She is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home. (John 19:26-27, NLT)



❖ Jesus died on the cross for our sins,
but he made sure he had provided
for His mother.

Seek first God's kingdom
and what God wants. Then
all your other needs will be
met as well.

(Matthew 6:33, NCV)

3. Don't Ignore Your Family

Application:

❖ Do you have an Isaac?

Application:

- ❖ Do you have an Isaac?
- ❖ Is there some relationship you need to put behind your relationship with Jesus Christ?

Application:

- ❖ Do you have an Isaac?
- ❖ Is there some relationship you need to put behind your relationship with Jesus Christ?
- ❖ Do you love God more than anyone else in your life?

Application:

❖ How are you
doing in tests of
devotion?

Application:

❖ What's your response?

Application:

❖ What's your response?

God didn't spare his own Son but handed him over to death for all of us. So he will also give us everything along with him.

(Romans 8:32, GW)

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