

CELEBRATING WOMEN WHO LIVE WITHOUT COMPROMISE

歌頌那些不妥協地活著的女性

MATTHEW 馬太福音 6:19-24

Pastor Alvin

*Theme: I want my listeners to celebrate women who lived without compromise and, in turn, live with conviction and passion for God.

*主題：我希望我的聽眾慶祝那些不曾妥協地活著的女性，正如她們對神充滿信念和熱情地活著一樣。

For the kids here and the young-at-heart, I have an activity for you.

對於在座的孩子們和心態依舊年輕的人們，我為你們預備了一個活動。

You'll need a pen and paper.

你需要一支筆和一張紙。

The game is for you to listen for a key word during the sermon.

這個遊戲是讓你在聽道的過程中找一個關鍵詞。

Once you hear the word, you need to take note of it, perhaps with a little tick.

一旦聽到這個詞，你需要把它記下來，或者打一個勾。

Let's see if you can get how many times I say the key word.

讓我們看看你是否能計算出我會多少次說到這個關鍵詞。

See me at the front afterwards with your tally and you will get a prize.

然後到前面來告訴我你統計的數字，你會拿到一個獎品。

The key word today is, of course, "mother" or "mom."

今天的關鍵詞當然是「母親」或「媽媽」。

A hunter raised his rifle and took careful aim at a large black bear.

一個獵人舉起獵槍，小心翼翼地瞄準了一隻大黑熊。

When he was about to pull the trigger, the bear spoke in a soft, soothing voice.

正當他要扣動扳機時，熊用柔和舒緩的聲音對他說話。

This is where it gets interesting.

有趣的地方來了。

So the bear says, "Isn't it better to talk than to shoot? What do you want? Let us try to negotiate this matter."

黑熊說：「說話不是比開槍好嗎？你想要什麼？讓我們努力談談這個話題。」

Lowering his rifle, the hunter replied, "I want a fur coat."

獵人放下獵槍，回答說：「我想要一件皮大衣。」

"Good," said the bear, "That is a negotiable question. I only want a full stomach, so let us negotiate a compromise."

黑熊說：「很好，這是可以商量的問題。我只想吃飽肚子，所以讓我們通過談判來達成妥協。」

They sat down to negotiate, and after a time, the bear walked away alone.

他們坐下來談判，過了一會兒，熊獨自走了。

The negotiations had been successful.

談判成功。

The bear had a full stomach, and the hunter had his fur coat!

黑熊吃飽了肚子，獵人穿上了皮大衣！

Compromise can be a tricky word.

妥協有時是一個棘手的詞。

It has some merit, for example, in a marriage there's sharing and compromise.

它有一定的好處，比如，在婚姻中分享和妥協是需要的。

But when it comes to our faith, compromise is not necessarily a good thing.

但當涉及到我們的信仰時，妥協一定不是一件好事。

Today is “Mother’s Day”—a day to celebrate women who live without compromise!

今天是「母親節」——為那些不妥協的女性而慶祝的日子！

Go ahead and wave to a woman of significance around you, and kids, if you’re near your moms, give them a pat on the back.

請向你身邊的女士們揮揮手，孩子們，如果你在媽媽身邊，請拍拍她們的背。

Now think of a mother figure or someone who characterizes a great mom.

現在來想一下——一個母親形象或代表偉大母親的人物。

What is one word to describe this person? Think of that one word.

用什麼詞來形容這樣一個人？請想一個詞。

I’m sure there’s lots of words to describe mom.

我相信有很多詞可以用來形容媽媽。

Take a look at this “Word Cloud” of words describing mom.

看看這個描述媽媽的「詞海」吧。

Apparently there’s lots of words that describe mom!

顯然有太多的詞可以形容媽媽！

Our Scripture, **Matthew 6:19-24**, tells us that we are to be faithful, not compromising our values and beliefs.

在聖經**馬太福音 6: 19-24**，告訴我們要忠心，在我們的價值觀和信仰上不要妥協。

We celebrate women for their faithfulness!

我們歌頌女性的忠誠！

Verse 19: Our Scripture states that it’s not about these earthly things.

第 19 節：我們的聖經說，不是關於地上的事情。

You want to evade compromising your faith?

你想逃避，在你的信仰上妥協嗎？

Invest in the eternal, things that have lasting value!

投資於永恆，就是具有永恆價值的事物！

- “Treasures in heaven” is our eternal investments.

- “天上的財寶」是我們永恆的投資。

- It’s not about savings—don’t fixate on financial gain rather invest in things that are eternal—The Bible and Prayer.

- 重點不是儲蓄——不要專注於經濟利益，而是投資於永恆的東西——聖經和禱告。

- Invest in people, with the salvation message. Invest in non-Christians, with fellow Christians, with the church.

- 以救恩的信息來投資在人身上。投資於非基督徒，與基督徒同胞，投資於教會。

Verse 21: “Where is your heart and desires?”...If your treasures are in heaven, your interests will be centered there.

第 21 節：「你的心和慾望在哪裡？..」如果你的財寶在天上，你的興趣將集中在那裡。

Verse 22: Next Jesus uses an analogy of the human eye to teach a lesson on spiritual sight...

第 22 節：接下來，耶穌用人的眼睛來比喻教導一個關於屬靈視覺的功課.....

“The eye is the lamp of the body”.

「眼睛是身體的燈。」

It is through the eye that the body receives illumination and can see.

身體通過眼睛獲得照明並可以看見。

If your eye is good (person with right motives), the whole body will be flooded with light.

如果你的眼睛很好（有正確動機的人），整個身體都會被光滲透。

And if your eye is bad, we will live in darkness.

如果你的眼睛昏花，就將生活在黑暗中。

Verse 24: So what's it going to be?

第 24 節： 那會是怎樣呢？

Which master will you choose?

你會選擇誰來作你的主人？

Here, God and money are stated in terms of masters and slaves.

在這裡，用主人和奴隸來形容神和金錢。

This Scripture passage is talking about evading compromise, and situations of compromise.

這段經文是在談論逃避妥協，以及妥協的情形。

And it's focusing on our treasures in heaven.

要專注於我們在天上的財寶。

There are many examples where Christians are challenged to compromise their faith.

有很多例子表明基督徒受到挑戰，在自己的信仰上向世界妥協。

This IS NOT letting God take full reign of your life.

這種情形表明你沒有完全讓神掌管你的生命。

I'd like to look at 3 remarkable women.

讓我們來認識 3 位傑出的女性。

These women of history have been marked with conviction not compromise, and they have invested in treasures in heaven.

縱貫歷史看到這些女性，她們投資財寶在天上，在信仰上從不妥協成為她們卓越的標誌。

When you think of women of the Bible, particularly the Old Testament, you may think of Esther.

當你想到聖經中的女性，特別是在舊約中，你可能會想到以斯帖。

Esther is a young Jewish woman living in Persia and is chosen as the new queen in a beauty pageant.

以斯帖是一位居住在波斯的年輕猶太女子，在選美比賽中被選為新王后。

Esther's cousin, Mordecai, discovers a plot to kill all of the Jews in the empire.

以斯帖的表哥末底改發現了一場針對所有猶太人的大屠殺正在密謀。

Mordecai urges Esther to use her position as queen to intervene and save their people.

末底改敦促以斯帖利用她作為王后的地位進行干預並拯救他們的百姓

But she is afraid to present herself to the King unsummoned, an offense punishable by death (4:6–12).

但她害怕在未被召見的情形下擅自去見王，因這是會被處死的罪（4： 6-12）。

Instead, she directs her cousin to have all Jews fast for three days for her, and vows to fast as well (4:15–16.).

隨後，她指示她的表哥讓所有的猶太人為她禁食三天，併發誓自己也要禁食（4： 15-16）。

At a banquet, Esther reveals her Jewish identity to the king and begs for mercy for her people.

在一次宴會上，以斯帖向王透露了她的猶太人身份，併為她的人民乞求憐憫。

She exposes the plot and convinces the king to spare the Jews.

她揭露了陰謀，並說服王放過了猶太人。

Queen Esther is a hero, saving her people.

以斯帖王后是一個英雄，拯救了她的人民。

Esther teaches us to not compromise our values.

以斯帖教導我們不要妥協，要持守我們的價值觀。

Esther risked endangerment and invested in the treasure of her people.

以斯帖冒著生命危險，投資在她的人民身上。

The second woman of the Bible is Mary, mother of Jesus.

聖經中的第二個女性是耶穌的母親馬利亞。

The angel Gabriel announced to her that she was to be the mother of the promised Messiah by conceiving him through the Holy Spirit,

天使加百列向她宣佈，她將通過聖靈懷上應許的彌賽亞，成為神所應許的彌賽亞的母親，

and, after initially hesitating at the announcement, she responded,

在最初對宣告猶豫不決之後，她回應道：

"I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done unto me according to your word."

「我是主的使女，願意照你的話實現在我身上。」

Mary's life is marked by faithfulness.

馬利亞的生命以忠誠為標誌。

Mary brought up Jesus and was present at Jesus' first miracle during the wedding at Cana.

馬利亞撫養了耶穌，在迦拿的婚宴上耶穌行第一個神蹟時她在場。

During Jesus' death, Mary is present standing near the disciple whom Jesus loved.

而在耶穌死的時候，馬利亞仍站在耶穌所愛的門徒身邊。

Herbert Lockyer wrote a short poem:

赫伯特·洛克耶（Herbert Lockyer）寫了一首短詩：

"At the cross her station keeping

「在十架前，她堅守

Stood the mournful mother weeping

悲哀的母親站著哭泣

Close to Jesus to the last.

靠近耶穌到最後。

Through her heart His sorrow sharing,

通過她的心分擔他的悲傷，

All this bitter anguish bearing.

諸般痛苦的感受。

Now at length the sword is passed."

現如劍穿透母心。」

Mary teaches us to obey God and be used by God.

馬利亞教導我們要順服神，並被神使用。

She was vessel for the Son of God, the Messiah.

她是神的兒子彌賽亞的器皿。

What if she retorted back to the angel Gabriel,

如果她反駁天使加百列說：

"You know what, I'm good Gabe, you go ahead!"

「你知道嗎，我很好，加百列，你去吧！」

Instead Mary took the calling of carrying and caring for the Messiah.

相反，馬利亞接受了攜帶和照顧彌賽亞的呼召。

The third remarkable woman I'd like to highlight is Mother Theresa.

我想強調的第三位傑出女性是特蕾莎修女。

Mother Teresa founded Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation.

特蕾莎修女創立了慈善機構，一個宗教群體。

The congregation manages homes for people who are dying of HIV/AIDS, leprosy, and tuberculosis.

那是一個為那些即將死於愛滋病毒、麻風病和肺結核的人提供臨終照顧的地方。

The congregation also runs soup kitchens, dispensaries, mobile clinics, children's and family counselling programs, as well as orphanages and schools.

會眾還提供免費食物、藥房、流動診所、兒童和家庭諮詢計劃，以及孤兒院和學校。

For over 45 years, she ministered to the poor, sick, and dying.

在超過 45 年的時間里，她服侍窮人、病人和垂死的人。

Mother Teresa lived among the poorest of the poor, in the slums of Calcutta, India.

特蕾莎修女在印度加爾各答貧民窟的窮人中生活。

She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.

她於 1979 年獲得諾貝爾和平獎。

Mother Teresa's teaches us selflessness.

特蕾莎修女教我們無私。

She had a conviction to help people, and her investment in the treasures of heaven with people is obvious.

她有幫助人的信念，顯而易見，她投資於人的生命作為天上的財寶。

As we look at investing in things of eternal value, I'd like us to look at a popular phrase:

當我們考慮投資具有永恆價值的東西時，我希望我們看一個流行的短語：

"It takes a village to raise a child"—appropriate quote as moms raise up kids.

「養育一個孩子需要整個村莊」——這是媽媽養育孩童的至理名言。

This widely-known proverb has been attributed to African cultures, embodying the spirit of several African cultures.

這句廣為人知的諺語源於非洲文化，集中體現了非洲文化的精神。

This phrase means it will take an entire community of people to influence, strengthen, and nourish the life of a young person.

這句話的意思是年輕一代人生命的成長和壯大需要整個社群參與和付出。

We are all encouraged to contribute to those under us, or to those we have influence with.

其實我們每個人都被鼓勵應該為下一代或那些可以被我們影響的人做出貢獻。

It doesn't have to be "children" but to teenagers or young adults.

不僅限於「兒童」，而是更多的青少年或年輕人。

If you're a teen or young adult, how about having influence with a fellow teen or young adult?

如果您本人就是青少年或年輕人，那您應該如何對其他青少年或年輕人產生影響呢？

For all of us, how are we going to live our lives without compromise (and contribute to the village of people before us)?

對於在座的所有人而言，應該如何不妥協地生活（併為我們所在的群體做出貢獻）？

One of the worst train disasters in history occurred in the El Toro Tunnel in Leon, Spain, on January 3, 1944.

據記載史上最嚴重的火車災難發生在 1944 年 1 月 3 日西班牙萊昂的埃爾托羅隧道。

Over five hundred people died.

超過五百人在災難中喪生。

The train was one of those long passenger trains with an engine on both ends.

這列火車是那種兩端都有發動機的長客運列車。

On this particular day, when the train went into the El Toro Tunnel, the engine on the front stalled.

事故發生的當天，當火車駛入埃爾托羅隧道時，前部的發動機突然熄火。

When the front engine stopped, the engineer on the back engine started up his engine to back the train out of the tunnel.

當前置發動機熄火後，在後置發動機那邊工作的工程師們試圖啟動發動機，讓列車往後行駛以便儘快退出隧道。

At the same time, however, the front engineer managed to get the front engine started again and attempted to continue the journey.

可是，與此同時，前面的工程師已成功地讓前發動機再次啟動，準備繼續接下來的旅程。

Neither engineer had any way of communicating with the other.

分處車頭和車尾的兩位工程師們都沒有與對方溝通。

Both engineers thought they simply needed more power.

兩位工程師各自認為他們只是需要加大馬力往前開。

They continued to pull in both directions for several minutes.

他們分別繼續向兩個方向拉了幾分鐘。

Hundreds of passengers on the train in the tunnel died of carbon monoxide poisoning because the train could not make up its mind which was to go.

數百名乘客滯留於僵持在隧道中的火車上，最終死於一氧化碳中毒。因為當時火車既無法前行又無法退出。

Which way are we going in life?

在現實生活中我們要選擇走哪條路呢？

Come to Jesus or remain in our sin?

是來到耶穌面前還是繼續留在罪中？

We can't serve God and also the devil—

我們不能同時事奉神又事奉魔鬼——

“No one can serve two masters” in Matthew 6:24.

馬太福音 6:24 說：「一個人不能事奉兩個主。」

As Christians, we cannot be prone to worldliness, compromising our faith.

作為基督徒，我們不能向世俗讓步，在信仰上隨便妥協。

Esther, Mary, and Mother Theresa have shown us that we could live exemplary lives, with treasures in heaven.

以斯帖、馬利亞和特蕾莎修女作為榜樣向我們示范了我們該有的生命樣式，積蓄財寶在天上。

Unfortunately, worldliness teaches us to compromise our views on lying, stealing, and cheating, for example—

不幸的是，現實的環境讓我們對撒謊、偷竊和欺騙的行為做不到零容忍，比方說——

not just cheating on an exam, but cheating on one's spouse, cheating on a future spouse, and cheating God.

小到在考試中作弊，大到欺騙配偶，欺騙未來的配偶，以至於欺騙神。

Our world sugar-coats sin.

我們所處的這個世界上的罪惡是包著糖衣的。

Our world sugar-coats lust and greed, and our world sugar-coats idleness and complacency.

在這個世界，情慾和貪婪是包裹著糖衣的，懶惰和自滿也包著糖衣。

Worldliness not only compromises our thoughts, worldliness affects our actions.

世俗化不僅損害著我們的思想，同時也影響著我們的行為。

And we know that worldliness and compromise is all around us.

我們看見在我們周圍充斥著世俗化的影響和對正確價值觀的妥協。

Remember: We were bought at a price, you are not your own, we now live by faith.

記住：我們是用重價買來的，你不再屬於你自己，現在的我們是憑著信心生活。

● **1 Corinthians 6: ¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.**

● 歌林多前書 6 章 19-20: 你們豈不知道你們的身體是聖靈的殿嗎？這聖靈是從 神而來，住在你們裏面的。而且你們不是屬自己的人，因為你們是重價買來的。所以，要在你們的身體上榮耀 神。

Stand by your convictions, and your commitment you made to God!

堅守你的信念，堅守你對神的承諾！

And continue living like this place is not our home.

繼續生活，要知道，這個世界不是我們最終的家園。

Our eternal home is in heaven!

我們永恆的家在天上！

Consider all of this temporary, and what really matters is our lives in heaven.

要知道世上所有這一切都是短暫的，真正重要的是我們在天上的生活。

If you are a newcomer or fairly new to our church, you can kickstart your commitment to God.

如果今天你是新來的，如果你是剛加入我們教會的，你可以從現在開始對神委身。

Today, if you do not have relationship with Jesus, today is the day to put your faith and trust in our God.

今天，如果你還沒有認識耶穌，還沒有與祂建立關係，今天就是你信靠神的日子。

Today is the day to leave your old life and start something anew with our God.

今天是你離開老舊生活的日子，是與神重新開始新生活的日子。

A businessman owned a big warehouse, but the warehouse sat empty for months and needed repairs.

一位商人擁有一個大倉庫，但倉庫空置了數月，需要維修。

Vandals had damaged the doors, smashed the windows, and trash was everywhere inside the building.

破壞者損壞了門，砸碎了窗戶，垃圾到處都是。

The businessman showed a prospective buyer the property and took great pains to say that he would replace the broken windows, bring in a crew to correct any structural damage and clean out all the garbage.

這位商人向潛在買家展示了房產，並苦口婆心地表示說他將更換所有破損的門窗，請專業的施工人員對結構部分的損壞進行徹底修復，同時會清理所有的垃圾。

“Forget about the repairs,” the buyer said.

買家說：「不用維修了。」

“When I buy this place, I’m going to build something completely different, something entirely new. I don’t want the building. I just want the site!”

等我買下這個地方以後，我要造一個完全不同以往的東西，全新的。事實上，我不想要這座建築。我想要的是這塊地！

You can’t keep your “old building” when you come to Jesus.

當你來到耶穌面前時，你不能保留你的「舊建築」。

The “Old is passed away; the new has come” in 2 Corinthians 5:

2 Corinthians 5: 17 說：「舊事已過，都變成新的了！」哥林多後書 5:2; 5:17 節

The old building—with its dark rooms and bad habits—is demolished.

老建築——黑暗的房間和壞的習慣——都被拆除了。

What is preventing you from putting away of your old self?

那麼，還有什麼在阻止你放下以前的自己？

It’s time to make that commitment to follow God, our one true heavenly Master.

是時候做出承諾，跟隨神，就是我們唯一真正的天上的主人。

And that commitment needs to turn into convictions, leaving our old selves and starting a new relationship.

這種承諾需要轉化為信念，離開舊的自我，開始建立新的關係。

You see, it’s not so much a religion, it’s a relationship with Jesus that flourishes and grows and strengthens.

你看，與其說是一種宗教，不如說是與耶穌的關係，這種關係使你能蓬勃向上，生命不斷成長和強大。

Remember at the beginning, I asked you to think of one word to describe a great mom or mother figure?

還記得一開始，我讓大家想一個詞來形容一位偉大媽媽的形象嗎？

You could be that word towards others.

你也可以向別人活出這個詞。

You are that word to others!

你的生命對別人而言就是那個詞！

We now live with the conviction of following Christ!

我們現在活在跟隨基督的信念中！

We have convictions, as in moral convictions, but we also have overall conviction to follow God faithfully.

我們有信念，就像道德信念，但我們更有一個信念，就是跟隨神，忠心到底。

We have a single focus:

綜上所述，只有一個重點：

We store up treasures in heaven, just like women of significance lived their lives in the past.

積蓄財寶在天上，效法那三位非凡的女性的生命樣式。

And we live by our convictions, living our lives without compromise.

持守信念，忠心到底，過一個毫不妥協的生活。

We follow God and worship God wholeheartedly.

我們全心全意地跟隨神，敬拜神。

It's about conviction not compromise!

那就是忠於信念，永不妥協！