



# CAROLINE BLACK

## “FAITH OF MARY, STRENGTH OF MARTHA: THE MIRACULOUS MODERN WOMAN OF CHRIST”

(Saturday Session 5)

Born in Utah, Sister Black grew up with 7 younger siblings in San Francisco and Portland, Oregon. As a child, she and her family enjoyed swimming, hide-and-seek in the fields, climbing Redwood trees, swinging from high oak branches, driving golf carts down long lanes to friends' houses, waterskiing and skiing together. They also sang and danced in an Oakland temple pageant, youth performing groups, church roadshows & dance festivals. Through this, Caroline developed a great love for performing arts and the understanding that talents can worship God, lift others, and feed one's own soul.

Caroline graduated from BYU in Spanish Education and Dance with Masters' studies in Latin American Literature. A tour with the BYU Folk dancers to then-Soviet Union and Poland during Perestroika convinced her that people of the world desperately needed the gospel, and that she should put plans on hold to help. She served a mission in Uruguay and Brazil, where her father had served, and the second morning recognized that the mission's cook had been baptized by him many years before.

Caroline moved to Washington, DC to work for US Education, and there met her husband, Erik Black. Married after a few short months, the couple lived in Wisconsin and then Arizona for Erik's graduate business studies. The Blacks were blessed with 3 daughters before joining the US Foreign Service and moving to Kiev, Ukraine. Just before beginning their second tour to Nicaragua, a son was born. China is their third overseas locale, and the Blacks have decided that expat life was meant for them, despite its quirks.

Today, Caroline greatly enjoys her work in the Beijing Third Branch Young Women's presidency. She is wife to a diplomat, mother of four fun-loving, active children and has a branchful of good friends, who add adventure and joy to her life. Caroline enjoys teaching creative and ballroom dance, cooking at home with her family, telling bedtime stories, teaching her preschooler to read, hosting friends, singing, skating, watching movies or musicals, browsing for deals at local markets, and learning Chinese.

Caroline's parents currently serve as the Portland Temple Visitors' Center directors. They taught her to trust in the great power of the atonement to fill all gaps and to have faith sufficient to ask for any righteous desire when needed. All of her family contributed much to Caroline's study of great women of Christ and their qualities, which we can develop in modern days.