

Extraordinary Mothers

Introduction

Proverbs 31:10-31

1. The word “extraordinary” is defined as: “going far beyond the ordinary degree, measure, limit, etc.; very unusual; exceptional; remarkable” (Webster’s New World College Dictionary)
2. Extraordinary mothers are remarkable because they go beyond what is ordinary.

Proverbs 31:28-29 Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: “Many daughters have done well, **But you excel them all.**”

3. This morning we want to look at and understand what the Bible teaches that makes a mother extraordinary.
 - A. Those who leave their parents and truly cleave to their husband.
 - B. Those who cherish their God given role as a mom.

Extraordinary Mothers Love Their Husbands

- 1. She understands her role as a faithful wife and helper to her husband.**

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; **I will make him a helper comparable to him.**”

- 2. She is a woman who devotedly submits to her husband’s headship.**

Ephesians 5:22-24 Wives, **submit to your own husbands**, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

- 3. She steadfastly stands with her husband no matter what.**

- A. Her wedding vows mean something to her.**

Proverbs 31:12 **She does him good** and not evil All the days of her life.

- 4. As a result, her husband trusts in her and she is a great example to her children.**

Proverbs 31:11 The **heart of her husband safely trusts her**; So he will have no lack of gain.

Extraordinary Mothers Cherish All There Is To Being “Mom”

1. She diligently trains her children in the laws (teachings) of God.

Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And **do not forsake the law of your mother;**

A. She does not forsake her God-given role as a teacher.

Proverbs 29:15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.

B. She wants her children to love the Lord first and foremost.

Matthew 22:37-38 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment.

C. As a result, her children honor her.

Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, **obey your parents in the Lord,** for this is right. **"Honor your father and mother,"** which is the first commandment with promise: "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

2. She is a godly example for her children.

2 Timothy 1:3-5 I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when I call to remembrance the **genuine faith** that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

A. Example means everything!

3. She looks well to the ways of her household.

Proverbs 31:27 She **watches over the ways of her household**, And does not eat the bread of idleness.

A. She is constantly seeking to improve the well being of her family (physically, emotionally, and financially).

1) In other words, she is not lazy in her responsibilities, nor selfish in her ambitions.

Proverbs 19:15 Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger.

4. An extraordinary mother is a great example that her children will learn from and cherish all the days of their life.

Proverbs 31:28-29 Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all."

Read Poem: "The Meanest Mother"

Conclusion

- 1. There are many moms in this world: Most of them are honored every Mothers Day.**
- 2. But what makes a mother extraordinary (unusual or exceptional), is that she exemplifies the qualities that please our heavenly Father!**
- 3. To all of you extraordinary Mothers in the audience this morning, thank you for your love, devotion, loyalty, and service to God, your husband, and your children.**

The Meanest Mother

Bobbie Pingaro - 1967

I had the meanest mother in the whole world. While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs or toast. When others had cokes and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. As you can guess, my supper was different than the other kids' also.

But at least, I wasn't alone in my sufferings. My sister and two brothers had the same mean mother as I did.

My mother insisted upon knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang. She had to know who our friends were and where we were going. She insisted if we said we'd be gone an hour, that we be gone one hour or less--not one hour and one minute. I am nearly ashamed to admit it, but she actually struck us. Not once, but each time we had a mind of our own and did as we pleased. That poor belt was used more on our seats than it was to hold up Daddy's pants. Can you imagine someone actually hitting a child just because he disobeyed? Now you can begin to see how mean she really was.

We had to wear clean clothes and take a bath. The other kids always wore their clothes for days. We reached the height of insults because she made our clothes herself, just to save money. Why, oh why, did we have to have a mother who made us feel different from our friends?

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and up at eight the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while they slept-my mother actually had the nerve to break the child-labor law. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make beds, learn to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she laid awake at night thinking up mean things to do to us.

She always insisted upon us telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, even if it killed us- and it nearly did.

By the time we were teenagers, she was much wiser, and our life became even more unbearable. None of this tooting the horn of a car for us to come running. She embarrassed us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. If I spent the night with a girlfriend, can you imagine she checked on me to see if I were really there. I never had the chance to elope to Mexico. That is if I'd had a boyfriend to elope with. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature age of 12 and 13, my old fashioned mother refused to let me date until the age of 15 and 16. Fifteen, that is, if you dated only to go to a school function. And that was maybe twice a year.

Through the years, things didn't improve a bit. We could not lie in bed, "sick" like our friends did, and miss school. If our friends had a toe ache, a hang nail or serious ailment, they could stay home from school. Our marks in school had to be up to par. Our friends' report cards had beautiful colors on them, black for passing, red for failing. My mother being as different as she was, would settle for nothing less than ugly black marks.

As the years rolled by, first one and then the other of us was put to shame. We were graduated from high school. With our mother behind us, talking, hitting and demanding respect, none of us was allowed the pleasure of being a drop-out.

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. Out of four children, a couple of us attained some higher education. None of us have ever been arrested, divorced or beaten his mate. Each of my brothers served his time in the service of this country. And whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out? You're right, our mean mother. Look at the things we missed. We never got to march in a protest parade, nor to take part in a riot, burn draft cards, and a million and one other things that our friends did. She forced us to grow up into God-fearing, educated, honest adults.

Using this as a background, I am trying to raise my three children. I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me mean. Because, you see, I thank God, He gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.