

# Mothers - The Heart of the Family

## Introduction

### Scripture Reading: Proverbs 31:10-31

**1. If the father is the "head" of the family, then surely the mother is the "heart" of the family.**

**2. Mothers are so very important - Listen to the words of Jesus:**

John 19:27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

**3. No one rises to any higher plane of moral accomplishment than does a godly mother.**

**A. Mary - accompanied her boy through persecution, rejection and death.**

**B. Hannah - helped mold the heart of her son into a great prophet and servant of God.**

**4. There is no one as selflessly sacrificial as a mother.**

**A. She shares her body with another to conceive; shares again with the unborn child, provides nourishment, protection and shares her time, energy, and talent.**

**B. She shares her heart as she weeps and laughs through the turbulent changes from childhood to adulthood.**

**5. No task on earth requires more dedication, commitment and highly refined skills tempered by compassion and patience.**

## Mothers Are Managers of the Home

### 1. Her most important realm of service is in the home.

#### A. Note GOD'S order in 1 Timothy 5:14-15:

1 Timothy 5:14-15 Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully. For some have already turned aside after Satan.

### 2. Keeping the home and not advancing a career is the primary responsibility of a godly woman.

#### A. A mother's humble heart seeks satisfaction and fulfillment in "motherhood."

#### B. However, after years of experimentation, selfish ambition and a career first attitude, our society is now experiencing a "backlash" against surrogate "motherhood."

### 3. The "Worthy woman" is an example of a domestic manager:

#### A. An efficient manager of the home.

**Proverbs 31:21**

#### B. She has her priorities in order. Even though she had pursuits outside of the home. Her family always comes first

**Proverbs 31:15-16, 18, 24**

### 4. She compliments her husband and contributes to a bright future for her family.

**Proverbs 31:23, 25**

## Mothers Should Be Models of Obedience

### 1. Mothers should be examples of submissive obedience:

#### A. First and foremost to the Lord.

James 4:7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

#### B. To her husband

1 Peter 3:1, 5

#### C. Not only are they to be examples of submissive obedience, they are to teach it to younger women.

**Titus 2:4-5**

- **At a banquet, the mother of George Washington was sitting beside a distinguished French officer. Turning to Washington's mother, the officer asked, "How have you managed to rear such a splendid son?" She replied, "I taught him to obey."**

### 2. This was seen in Mary.

Luke 1:38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

#### A. What a great attitude she had "Let it be to me according to your word."

## Mothers Are to Be Teachers of Good Things

**1. This reflects God's original plan for the operation of the human family.**

**A. The book of Proverbs is full of admonitions that clearly show that mother's are to be teachers:**

**Proverbs 1:8, 6:20, 31:1**

**B. Teaching is done largely by example.**

**1) When our actions and words don't harmonize we do our children a great disservice! They recognize us as hypocrites and the effectiveness of the teaching is destroyed!**

**2) When we demand of our children what we don't demand of self, we violate a Bible principle:**

Matthew 7:5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

**2. Timothy's mother and grandmother's example.**

2 Timothy 1:5 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.

2 Timothy 3:15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

## Mothers are Helpers of the helpless

**1. By virtue of what they are called upon to do, mothers are agents of grace and mercy.**

**A. Is there anything more helpless than an infant?**

**B. Mothers have a wonderful ability to love their children regardless of how ungrateful or hurtful they may be at times.**

Proverbs 15:20 A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish man despises his mother.

Proverbs 10:1 A wise son makes a glad father, But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

**C. We should thank God that mothers care for us, regardless of the many problems we have.**

**1) They take care of us when we are hurt or sick. Like God, mothers love us even when we do wrong things.**

- "A mother bird keeps busy feeding her young and protecting them. That is all she does, though. Think of how often our mothers have to be nurses, teachers, housekeepers, cooks, chauffeurs, counselors, and friends. With all we ask it is a wonder they don't push us out of the nest. Baby birds are out of the nest in one season. The mother becomes free from caring for them. Our mothers are forever. They continue to do things for us even when we get older. They never stop caring for us."

----- A Treasury of Bible Illustrations, page 153

## Mothers Are Encouragers of the Fainthearted

Proverbs 1:8-9 My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.

Proverbs 14:1 The wise woman builds her house, But the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

### 1. Through her teaching of good things, the godly mother “builds” her house.

#### A. She is an important source of encouragement.

- “The wisdom of God is exhibited in motherhood. We are not the byproduct of some impersonal biological process. We are not made on an assembly line by the combination of chemicals. Our mothers nurtured us and formed an intimate relationship with us before we were born. She jeopardized her life for us. The greatest lessons we have ever learned have come from loving, caring, sacrificing mothers who were always available to us.”

---- The Treasury of Bible Illustrations

### 2. Hannah was an example of a mother who encouraged her son to excel in good things:

1. He was encouraged through her example of dignity and grace in the face of burdens.

**1 Samuel 1:2-10**

## Mothers Are to Be Respected and Honored

Proverbs 31:28 Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her:

### 1. **Respect for mothers is rooted in the Old Testament and sprouts in the New Testament.**

Leviticus 19:3 'Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.

Proverbs 23:25 Let your father and your mother be glad, And let her who bore you rejoice.

Ephesians 6:2 "HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER," which is the first commandment with promise:

### 2. **Consider what God thinks of a disrespectful child:**

Proverbs 19:26 He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother Is a son who causes shame and brings reproach.

Proverbs 20:20 Whoever curses his father or his mother, His lamp will be put out in deep darkness.

#### **A. There are many disrespectful children in our society today.**

2 Timothy 3:2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, unthankful, unholy,

### 3. **We should be thankful for our mother and treat her with respect.**

Proverbs 31:28 **Her children rise up and call her blessed**; Her husband also, and he praises her:

- The man stopped at the flower shop to order some flowers to be wired to his mother who lived 200 miles away. As he got out of his car he noticed a girl sitting on the curb sobbing. He asked her what was wrong and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother, but I only have 75 cents and a rose costs \$2." The man smiled and said, "Come on in with me. I will buy you a rose for your mother." He placed his FTD order of flowers to his mother and bought a rose for the girl. As they were leaving he offered the girl a ride. She responded, "Yes, please, if you could. Take me to my mother," and she directed him to a cemetery where she placed the rose on a freshly dug grave. The man returned to the flower shop, canceled the wire order, picked up the flowers and drove the 200 miles to his mother's home.

### **3. Respect like love needs to expressed in deeds.**

1 John 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

## **Conclusion**

Ezekiel 16:44 "Indeed everyone who quotes proverbs will use this proverb against you: 'Like mother, like daughter!'

- 1. Most of us can trace what admirable qualities we possess to our mothers.**
- 2. Have you taken the time to thank her?**
- 3. Let each of us thank God for His wisdom as expressed in His plan for the human family!**

