

The Influence of Mother

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Introduction: There are not many words in the human experience that produces such emotion as: “Mother.”

- A. This is no accident as God’s will has placed mothers in a major role in shaping the character and the spirit of every child. **(Titus 2:4-5)**
 - 1. While our evil society has tried mightily to diminish this role, are you not glad that you had a mother who was willing to put you welfare above her own?
 - 2. To a great extent our choice to serve God was greatly influenced by mother.
- B. We need to be reminded however of the powerful role God has given mothers, lest we give in to the pressures of society to sacrifice our children for “success.”
 - 1. In history and in current times we hear of mothers who sacrificed their children to the idols of the age. **(Lev 18:21; Deut 18:10)**
 - 2. On the other hand if our homes are what they should be, we can have an influence that society cannot erase.

“Mothers write on the hearts of their children what the world's rough hand cannot erase.”

I. The Power of Mother

- A. In the instilling of faith in the living God. **(2 Tim 1:5)**
 - 1. This is not an easy process. It takes determination.
 - 2. Many mothers have little support from the fathers here. This is wrong.
 - 3. What a blessing when she succeeds! **(Prov 31:28-29)**
- B. The care and tenderness of a mother reflects the wisdom of God in molding lives. **(1 Thess 2:7-8; Isa 66:13)**
 - 1. There is a sense of security and well being that comes from the care of mother.
 - a. So many today ask: “Who will care?” **(Prov 4:3)**
 - b. This security will be with us all of our lives.
 - 2. Can you still hear the voice of your mother in the many things that you do? **(Prov 6:20-22)**
- C. In the teaching about everything from school to dating! **(Prov 1:8, 31:1)**
 - 1. Mother has the opportunity to introduce you to the issues of life.
 - 2. Are you not thankful that your mother had the time to be there for you?
- D. In the atmosphere in the home.
 - 1. There are some homes that mold angry, resentful excuse filled people.
 - 2. There are other homes that build those who see God’s grace and can calmly see their own faults as well as others. They know God’s grace. **(Eph 4:31-32)**
- E. In giving us support as adults!
 - 1. The mother of Zebedee’s sons asked for the wrong thing! **(Matt 20:20-23)**
 - 2. Do you remember the Bear Bryant commercial for Bell South years ago?

II. The Trials of Mother

- A. In her concern for the welfare of her child. **(1 Sam 2:19; Luke 2:48-51)**

1. How many times did mother warn of the dangers in a certain matter?
 2. Mothers have had to endure the scorn of teenagers who say “You do not trust me!”
 3. Today those same words are in my heart and they have spared me untold pain.
- B. In her work that never ends. **(Prov 31)**
- C. In the pain of seeing a child leave God. **(Prov 29:15)**

III. Jesus’ Care for His Mother

- A. Jesus did not forget His mother when the sword of Simeon's prophecy pierced her soul . **(Luke 2:35)**
1. Jesus had no material wealth to give her. **(John 19:26-27)**
 - a. He left her something more precious - someone to provide her with loving and sympathetic care .
 - b. How often are aging parents denied this simple want by their child?
 2. Mary was committed to John shortly before the darkness covered the land.
 - a. She could still clearly see the living face of her son.
 - b. She suffered with Jesus to the end. This is the place of mother.
 3. John understood the Lord's words and took Mary to his own home.
 - a. This important work cannot be discounted as a factor of his long life .
 - b. Jesus and John were close. **(John 13:23)**
 4. Why John? He possessed the qualities Jesus wanted in one to look after Mary.
- B. Are we like Jesus in the care of our parents? **(Eph. 6:3)**

IV. How to Support Mother

- A. Every Christian must give their parents support. **(Matt 15:4-9; Prov 23:22)**
 “Not until I became a mother did I understand how much my mother had sacrificed for me. Not until I became a mother did I feel how hurt my mother was when I disobeyed. Not until I became a mother did I know how proud my mother was when I achieved. Not until I became a mother did I realize how much my mother loves me.”
1. This generation does not do this. **(Prov 30:10-14)**
 2. King David protected his parents in their old age. **(1 Sam 22:3-4)**
- B. In other mothers giving their support. **(Titus 2:4-5)**
- C. You must stand for the truth of God over her wishes. **(Psa 27:10; Mt 10:37-38)**
1. Christians are our family as well. Some have lost their mothers because of their hostility to the gospel. **(Mark 10:29-30)**
 2. It may be your influence that saves your mother! What will your mother think of you in eternity?

Conclusion: Where are we placing our values?

- A. In the end of life we will not be thinking about all the things we are leaving behind.
1. We need now to place our efforts upon what is really important. **(Rom 12:1-2)**
 2. There are some things you will never regret.
- B. Where is your mother now? What kind of home do you have?