



Characteristics of Godly Mothers

WORSHIP: One Thing Remains by Jesus Culture/ Nothing is impossible/ Shout to the Lord/ Strength will Rise

WELCOME: What is your fondest memory of your mother? What do you consider the most admirable characteristic of a mother is?

WORD:

God chose imperfect individuals to become our parents but although they are imperfect, God commands us to *“Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the Lord your God gives you.”* Deuteronomy 5:16

Characteristics of Godly Mothers

1. PROTECTIVENESS

“Amram ^[a]married his father’s sister Jochebed, and she bore him Aaron and Moses; and the ^[b]length of Amram’s life was one hundred and thirty-seven years.” Exodus 6:20

“Now a man from the house of Levi went and ^[a]married a daughter of Levi. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw ^[b]that he was ^[c]beautiful, she hid him for three months. ³But when she could hide him no longer, she got him a ^[d]wicker ^[e]basket and covered it over with tar and pitch. Then she put the child into it and set it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile. ⁴His sister stood at a distance to ^[f]find out what would ^[g]happen to him.” Exodus 2: 1-4

- These two instances are examples of how mothers can become protective of the children that God has charged them with.
- They try to protect their children from all kinds of harm – whether it be physical harm, emotional harm, intellectual and moral corruption
- This is also a reminder to us that a mother’s protectiveness although sometimes misunderstood for being meddling is done out of love and concern for us to protect us from the snares of the devil in the same way a mother hen hovers by her chicks

2. DEDICATION

“Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best ^[a]to you. Remain until you have weaned him; only may the LORD confirm His word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with a three-year-old bull and one ephah of flour and a jug of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh, although the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull, and brought the boy to Eli. ²⁶She said, “Oh, my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of Him. ²⁸So I have also ^[b]dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is ^[c]dedicated to the LORD.” And he worshipped the LORD there.” 1 Samuel 1:23-28

- Hannah was committed to caring for Samuel, without her tireless dedication to raise Samuel, Samuel would not have been able to anoint David
- When God answered Hannah’s prayers and gave her a son, she responded by dedicating herself to caring for the blessing that God had given her
- This is the same for most of our mothers, wherein they would make certain sacrifices in order to care for their children.
- Godly mothers are dedicated to take care of their families, they are dedicated to pray for their children

3. INSTRUCTION

"You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:14-15

- Timothy had a mother who was a believer and a father who was not, and because of this it became difficult for his mother to raise him without being persecuted but despite the obstacles, she was able to raise Timothy to believe and follow Jesus
- Mothers have a big impact on the life of their children, often times the children imitate the mother in her actions or words. This reminds us that our actions are more reflective of our beliefs and life, and these are the things that our children will emulate.

4. LOYALTY

"But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene." John 19:25

- We remember Mary, the mother of Jesus. She stood by her Son throughout His life. She was loyal to Him and endured the pain of having to watch Him suffer on the cross.
- Often times, it is our mother who is always there for us during in our time of need.

Our mothers have always loved us and will always love us. . . they will be there for us through everything. . . but we must remember that more than the magnitude of our mother's love for us --- is Jesus' love for us.

Discussion:

1. What are the characteristics of my mother (or father) that I have emulated?
2. As a parent, (or future parent) what are the characteristics I would want to possess?
3. What kind of legacy would I want to leave to my children?

WORKS:

Thank you, dear Lord, for our mothers
Who were brave enough to give birth
Who loved through many growing-up years
Who taught about God and love and being good
Who often got no thanks
Whose ears could hear the slightest cry
Whose eyes didn't miss much either
Whose hands held and bathed and picked up
Whose heart was often broken
Who always forgave and forgot
Who encouraged when things went bad
Who always had time to listen
Who worked so hard to make things go
Who make the world so much better
Who deserve our love on Mother's Day
And every day
Even for eternity. Amen.

Today is a special day for all mothers. Reflect on the poem and remember your very own mother, spend a moment to thank the Lord for the gift of your mother (whether biological, spiritual or mother-in-laws)... both their strengths and their weakness, their abilities and inadequacies . . .appreciating the totality of their person-hood and how God in His infinite wisdom gave us the a mother "perfect" for us. In your journal, write specifically what you would want to pray for them and how you would specifically commit to in order to appreciate, love and honor them as the Father has commanded.