

INTRODUCTION

1. Today is a very special day where we honor mothers.
2. Mothers are to be honored.
3. Ephesians 6:2-3 (NKJV) “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise.”
4. Why are we to honor them? Ephesians 6:3 says “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”
5. And two, as Proverbs 31:10 says, “her worth is far above rubies.”
6. This is literally “Her value is far beyond pearls [or, corals].” This is expressed in English as “Her worth is far greater than ...” (Scott) or “She is worth far more than ...” (NIV, TEV).
7. We understand her worth by what he says before this in verse 10.
8. He refers to her as a “virtuous or excellent wife” (v.10) and says she is hard to find.
9. This kind of woman can be trusted (v.11) because she loves her husband and family and it is seen by her faithfulness and industrialness.
10. We all know that children can say some most amazing things.
11. Theresa has developed several pages on Facebook of our kids recording those moments of wit.

12. But one mother overheard her 18 month old daughter rehearsing some noises she had learned.
13. Her daughter said a sheep goes baa and a cow goes moo and a doggie goes woof woof but mommie goes no, no, no!
14. We have too heard that in our lifetime but we have also experienced the tender yes.
15. "A mother's arms are made of tenderness and children sleep soundly in them." (Victor Hugo)
16. Someone once wrote: "I have been caught in my Mother's tenderness.
She sees my stress and soothes my forehead.
She knows my turmoil and hugs me close.
She hears my broken prayers and murmurs her love.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death
of pain
of angst
of brokenness
of disappointment
of fear
and anger
and "why me?"
and self-pity
and bitterness
and loss
and yearning
my Mother is with me.

She brushes my hair and holds my hand and kisses my cheek.
Surely mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, for
I am caught in my Mother's tenderness."

17. It's no wonder than Solomon says "her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her" (Prov.31:28, NKJV).
18. One day a noted financial analyst named Sylva Porter took her calculations to the computer and punched in the average hourly fee for a nursemaid, housekeeper, cook, dishwasher, laundress, food buyer, chauffeur, gardener, maintenance person, seamstress, dietitian, and practical nurse. She found that the labor performed by a mother each year at home would cost a family \$23,580 in Greensboro, South Carolina, \$26,962 in Los Angeles, and \$28, 735 in Chicago.
19. Even at that, the list is not exhausted.
20. In addition to the roles I just listed, most moms function as a coach, teacher, interior decorator, religious educator, mediator, counselor, and child psychologist. Punch up salaries for all of those professions, and mom's worth is at least six figures.
21. When you realize all that your mother does for you, do you ever stop to evaluate her worth?
22. Mom's are valuable not because of what they do for their children but because of the influence they have on their children.
23. God holds a special place for mothers.
24. When Jesus was hanging on the cross, John 19:26-27 (NKJV) says He "saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home."
25. Since mothers are special to Jesus, what kind of legacy is she to leave to her children?

26. What is she to pass on to the next generation?
27. Is it what one little girl said to her daddy after he read her a story about slaves?
28. She asked, “What’s a slave, daddy?” He explained it the best that he could. When he was through, the little girl looked up at her daddy and asked, “Is this what mommy is?” (Stories for Preachers & Teachers, p.110).
29. Mother’s are not slaves, even though at times they may feel like them.
30. Mother’s are models and influencers!
31. When Abraham Lincoln was asked, “What is the greatest book you’ve ever read? He succinctly replied, “My mother!” Many people would say the same. (Stories for Preachers & Teachers).
32. As we consider “A Mother’s Worth,” this morning, I want us to see 3 things that every mother must pass to the next generation.

LESSON

I. Mothers Must Give Their Children the Gospel of Jesus Christ

A. This Means They Must First Know Jesus Themselves

1. You cannot teach your children about Jesus if you don’t know Him personally.
2. Have you personally received Jesus as Lord?
3. Have you surrendered your life to Him?

B. You Cannot Talk to Your Children About Salvation If You’re Not Demonstrating It in Your Lives

1. Do you work out your salvation with fear and trembling?

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; (Philippians 2:12 NASB)

2. Are you committed to the Lord no matter what?

Luke 1:5-6 (NASB) says that Zacharias and Elizabeth were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord.

II. **Mothers Must Teach Their Children to Fear God**

There are many things in this world that we fear but is your number one fear the Lord? Do you have awe and reverence for Him?

A. Children Must Understand the Fear of God

Listen to what the Bible says about the fear of God...

1. It is clean and enduring forever (Ps.19:9)
2. It is the beginning of wisdom (Ps.111:10)
3. It is the beginning of knowledge (Prov.1:7)
4. It prolongs days (Prov.10:27)
5. It is a strong confidence (Prov.14:26)
6. It is a fountain of life (Prov.14:27)
7. It is the instruction of wisdom (Prov.15:33)
8. It is how one departs from evil (Prov.16:6)
9. It leads to life and satisfaction (Prov.19:23)

Proverbs 8:13 (NASB) gives us the definition of the fear of the Lord when it says, "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate."

This is why...

B. Mothers Must Teach Their Children that the Fear of God is the Most Important Truth (Prov.1:7-9)

1. Because it is the beginning of wisdom (Ps.111:10)
2. Because it is the beginning of knowledge (Prov.1:7)

The fear of the Lord is a state of mind in which one's own attitudes, will, feelings, deeds, and goals are exchanged for God's (John MacArthur).

III. **Mothers Must Teach Their Children to Love God**

A. They Must Help Their Children Understand What is the Greatest Commandment

1. Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love God

And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' (Matthew 22:37 NASB)

2. Children need to be taught the necessity of loving God

a) Loving God proves one's salvation

- (1) We love, because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19 NASB)
- (2) and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, (1 Peter 1:8 NASB)

b) Loving God includes love for God's Word

(1) Psalm 119:47-48

(2) Psalm 119:97

(3) Psalm 119:113

(4) Psalm 119:119

(5) Psalm 119:127

c) Loving God will be manifested in obedience to Him

(1) Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.²⁴"He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. (John 14:23-24 NASB)

(2) but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: (1 John 2:5 NASB)

d) Loving God will be manifest in our love for others

(1) "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' (Matthew 22:39 NASB)

(2) "This I command you, that you love one another." (John 15:17 NASB)

B. When We Fear God We Will Love and Obey Him

1. All of these principles will teach the child his responsibility to God and man

2. It will teach him that God is to have first place in his life
3. It will also teach him if he chooses not to fear God he will suffer the consequences

CONCLUSION

1. Mom do you know Jesus personally?
2. Are you teaching your children the gospel?
3. Are you teaching your children to fear, love, and obey God?
4. This is the legacy you are to pass to your children.