

RISE AND CALL HER BLESSED | MOTHERS DAY TOPICAL (PROV 31:28-29)

PASTOR MARK BOFILL | MAY 12, 2024 | *I. Recognizing Moms | II. Remembering Moms | III. Reward for Moms

INTRO: HAPPY MOTHERS DAY! – From the very beginning, God knew that man needed a counterpart, a helper, and equal. **He therefore designed the family unit**, starting with a MAN; to lead and provide and protect his home. – But God also knew that the home would be nothing without WOMAN; in particular, a **WIFE** and **MOTHER** who would complete the family unit. – And so... TODAY, **we want to Recognize just how amazing the role of motherhood is!** **If you are a mother**, it's a day to be honored by your family. It's also a day for us to Remember our mothers. – In this Mother's Day Topical message, we will examine **three viewpoints** *

I. RECOGNIZING MOMS: Who They Are – Like every created being, God fashioned women with a particular role, having certain qualities and characteristics that are unique. – **(Gen 3:20)** says, *And Adam called his wife's name EVE, because she was the mother of all living*.

- This verse reveals God's exclusive assignment for a woman! **Only a woman can bear children and bring forth life!** – By God's design, it is biologically impossible for a man to accomplish this assignment! (*Satan has twisted many to think otherwise! i.e., outside of God's plan*)

A. Designation of Mothers – It was always in God's mind to allow women to become mothers, but the process was drastically impacted in the **Garden of Eden**, when *Adam and Even ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen 3:6)*. – As a result, the woman would have to "endure sorrow at conception, and pain in childbirth" (Gen 3:16).

- **But one of the fascinating aspects of a woman** is that they have a different kind of strength than men. – In **(John 16:21)** Jesus said, *"A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born, she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world."* (*A strength that I don't believe even men could handle!*)
- Even from the womb, **God designated women to give Life and Nurturing** (Psalm 22:10-11) *"For You drew me forth from the womb, made me safe at my mother's breasts. Upon you I was thrust from the womb; since my mother bore me you are my God."* (*D to give us Life & Love*)

B. Duty of Mothers – While much is to be said about effectiveness of mothers, much of it is based on the **DUTY to Instruct her Children in the home**: **(Deut 6:6-7)**: *"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. **You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.**"* (*Moms are with their kids the most... teach them scripture, teach them well!*)

- **Mothers are to instruct their children with Patience and Wisdom (Prov 31:26)**, *"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."* (*Attitude and Etiquette are to be taught – Manners and Respect – Even though you may feel your patience in running thin!*) – **The efforts of mothers ALSO helps to instill authentic faith in our children**, as seen with Timothy, *"I'm reminded of your authentic faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. I'm sure that this faith is also inside you."* (2 Tim 1:5).

C. Dedication of Mothers – Since the beginning of mankind, **godly women are to embrace marriage and motherhood for a healthy families**, which in turn helps produce a healthy society. – **A sharp contrast many women today, who put off motherhood**, so as to embrace a sexually active lifestyles, or to further their own career, or to even compete to prove their equality to men. (*Am I being Chauvinistic? No, just Scriptural! 1 Pet 3:1-6; 1 Tim 5:9-15 – Recognize God’s design!*)

- **Today many young women are forced to enter the workforce**, just to help with the mortgage payment or to make ends meet. – **Sadly**, some work just to have more money or to “keep up with Jones.” – In doing so, many moms are **unable to supervise and guide their children** or to come alongside their husbands as biblically prescribed (**Gen 2:18,20,24**)
- Scripture teaches that a **“dedicated mother”** is one who is responsible for keeping a house in order: Listen to the wisdom of Solomon, (**Prov 14:1**) **“The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.”** (*Every woman is given the ability to choose their own ways ...the ways of self or the ways that God has designed for them – Josh 24:15!*)

P/A – **Motherhood is spoken of throughout Scripture as a high and important calling**. God uses the metaphor of mothers to describe the ways **He loves and cares for His children** (Isaiah 66:13). – When women **recognize and embrace** their God given assignments as **dedicated mothers**, **they will find their HEARTS FILLED with the blessings of God**, realizing that they are one of His greatest works! – A quote from St. Therese, **“The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother”** – St. Therese (*Though some moms have failed, many of them get it right!*)

II. REMEMBERING MOMS: What They Do – *As we all look back in time*, it is good to reflect upon the good that they had done for us. // Now I understand that there may be some HURTS or BAD EXPERIENCES attached, but as Christians we are to FORGIVE those who have wronged us (Matt 6:14-15). Rather than focusing on their FAULTS, Scripture tells us to **FOCUS ON**, **“...whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”**⁹ *The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you* (**Phil 4:8-9**)

- Remember...**They’re still your mother so, make it right!** – If your mom has passed and it seems impossible to make peace, then “be released of it” by knowing that **God knows your heart and intention!** (**tt.1 John 3:19-21**)
- If you’re the mom and you’ve blown it with your kids, **ASK for forgiveness... make restitution ASAP!** (*Don’t put it off it only cause more hurt!*)

Now, let’s take a moment to meditate on...

A. Their Support – The Bible teaches that **mothers have a Sacred Duty**... to rear their children in love and righteousness, to provide for their physical and spiritual needs, and to teach them to love and serve one others. **Those are just the basics!** – **Mothers are also known for support in so many other ways, like** **1) Nursing us to health when we were sick.** **2) Never abandoning us during our “weirdly long awkward” phase.** **3) Making our favorite food at a moment’s notice...**

4) Acting as our very own life cheerleader, pushing us to be successful. 5) They provided an unlimited supply of Hugs us when we cry. *And my personal favorite...* 6) We KNOW that our mom's love us because they washed our underwear! (ha!)

- On a more serious side, it must be stated that with all the Daily Chores and Directing Moments, **a CHRISTIAN MOTHER** has the life-long responsibility of Disciple-Making in all they do (Matt 28:19-20). **YES... Kingdom Work in The Home!** – Every action and every chore that you do, every word that you utter in the journey of Christian motherhood, you are doing to raise little disciples of God! By providing clean clothes, feeding hungry bellies, saying grace before meals, reading your Bible, demonstrating compassion to strangers, attending worship and Bible Study – **all are part of the job of Christian motherhood.** And if it is done right, **mothers will one day see “her children rising up and calling her blessed!” (Prov 31:28)**

Now let's remember...

B. Their Sacrifice – I've heard it said, *“There is no 'hood quite like motherhood.”* **Moms deserve all the praise for going above and beyond for their kids**, offering love, wisdom and strength and so much more! – When a couple gets married, their lives are **for their partner**. When they have children, **their lives are for their kids!** – **Sacrifice is involved for the well being of their kids.** In particular, **Every MOM Makes at least 3 Beautiful Sacrifices, Their Bodies** (reminded every time they look in the mirror). **Their Sleep** (sleep deprivation is not only during the 1st year) **Their Time** (available 24/7, even into adulthood!) Their sacrifices have paved the way for a beautiful future!

Of course something needs to be stated about...

C. Their Sincerity: Why did mothers' do what they do? **LOVE!** *There are no limits to a mother's love!* – It is the force that motivates her to shield, mentor, and uplift her kids! – **Jochebed hid Moses** because of it, **Hannah dedicated Samuel** because of it, and even **Mary**, the mother of Jesus watched her Son's crucifixion on Roman cross! – **(1 Cor 13:13)** tells us, *“Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.”*

- **Besides all the sacrifices and support our mothers give, the very best they can offer is CONSTANT PRAYERS FOR THEIR CHILDREN!**
- **Is your mom a praying mom? Are you a praying mom! If not, then start praying for you children now!** And watch how it makes a difference in their lives. Listen to this poem...
- *“Some have had kings in their lineage, some to whom honor was paid. Not blest of MY ancestors – **but I have a mother who prays!** / I have a mother who prays for me and pleads with the Lord every day for me. Oh, what a difference it makes for me – **I have a mother who prays!** / Some have worldly success and trust in riches they've made – This is MY surest asset; I have a mother who prays! / My mother's prayers cannot save me, Only mine can avail: But mother introduced me to someone – **Someone who never fails!** / Oh yes... I have a mother who prays for me and pleads with the Lord every day for me... **O what a difference it makes for me... I have a mother who prays!**” – Author Unknown*

III. REWARD FOR MOMS: They will Reap what they Sow! – Throughout the Bible, we see depictions of faithful women who trusted the Lord, and in turn, were blessed. But the woman mentioned in **(tt. Prov 31:29-31)** is also a mother. Notice what is said about her! **READ**

A. Her children Rise Up and called her blessed! (Prov 31:28a) – We all go through different stages in life and sometimes we fail to Recognize or even **Remember** just how Supportive, Sacrificial and Sincere our moms were to us throughout the years...

- At **3** years old we say, *“Mommy I love you.”*
- At **14** years old we say, *“Mom...Whatever!”*
- At **16** years old we say, *“My Mom is so Annoying!”*
- At **18** years old we say, *“Mom, I’m leaving this house!”*
- At **21** years old we say, *“Mom, you were right!”*
- At **30** years old we say, *“I want to go to Mom’s house”*
- At **50** years old we say, *“I don’t want to lose my Mom!”*
- At **70** years old we say, *“I would give up everything to have my Mom here with me.”*

B. Mothers [and fathers] are ALWAYS to be HONORED (Eph 6:1-3) *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.* ² *“Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise:* ³ *“that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.”* (How do you Honor your mother?)

- **Mothers to be Commended for a job well done: (Prov 31:31)** *“Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.”*
- When a woman’s own children *can see their mother’s outstanding qualities and virtue* and **tell her so**, or when a **husband praises** his wife and celebrates that she is his gift from God, his helpmeet, I don’t think there is a greater joy! **Honor Your Mothers today!**

P/A – *Mother’s Day is a day to celebrate our moms and even motherly figures in our lives. It’s a day to show how much we care or remember those who are sadly no longer with us!*

Closing: Do you struggle and wonder if you’ll ever hear this? **Hang in there mama!** *Your children will look back and realize all of the lessons and virtues you’ve taught them.*

- **Altar Call – (Isa 49:15)** *“Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.”*