

A Mother's Reward

Mother's Day 2016

Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes

NKJV - *"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."*

NVI - *"..el que no toma su cruz y me sigue no es digno de mí. El que se aferre a su propia vida, la perderá, y el que renuncie a su propia vida por mi causa, la encontrará. Quien los recibe a ustedes, me recibe a mí; y quien me recibe a mí, recibe al que me envió. Cualquiera que recibe a un profeta por tratarse de un profeta, recibirá recompensa de profeta; y el que recibe a un justo por tratarse de un justo, recibirá recompensa de justo. Y quien dé siquiera un vaso de agua fresca a uno de estos pequeños por tratarse de uno de mis discípulos, les aseguro que no perderá su recompensa."*

"When a Southern Grandma Goes to Court." - *In a legal trial, in a small southern town in Mississippi, the prosecuting attorney called his first witness, a grandmotherly, elderly woman to the stand. He approached her and said, "Mrs. Jones, do you know me?" She responded, "Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a boy, and frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie. You cheat on your wife. You manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a big shot when you haven't got the brains to realize you'll never amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you." The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what else to do, he pointed across the room and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know the defense attorney?" She again replied, "Why, yes, I do. I've known Mr. Bailey since he was a youngster too. He's lazy, bigoted, and he's got a drinking problem. He can't build a normal relationship with anyone, and his law practice is one of the worst in the entire state. Not to mention he cheated on his wife with three different women. One of them*

was your wife. Yes, I know him." The defense attorney nearly collapsed. Then the judge asked both counselors to approach him at the bench and in a very quiet tone said, "If either of you idiots asks her if she knows me, I'll send you both to the electric chair."

1. A Mother's **CROSS** (v.38)
2. A Mother's **COST** (v.39)
3. A Mother's **CROWN** (v.40-42)

1. A Mother's **CROSS** (v.38) - **"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me."**

- The Cross was the Mission of Jesus while upon the earth. He came here with the intention of giving His life upon the Cross.
- **John 12:23-25,27 NKJV** - *"But Jesus answered them, saying, **"The hour has come** that the Son of Man should be glorified. **"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ... "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour."***
- For mothers, this is **the intentional purposeful decision** that is made to live out God's primary Mission and Calling for your life: **BEING A GODLY MOTHER!**
- **Eph 2:10 NKJV** - *"For we are **His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus **for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."***
- ***"Make the beds, bandage heads, and straighten up the rooms; Wash the windows, cut the grass, see the flowers bloom; Drive the kids to school, then drive them back again; Have the Scouts for a meeting, then I'm cleaning up the den; Serve on my committee, then attend the PTA; I forgot to buy the children's shoes, no time for that today! I'll pay the bills, then write a note, then fill the cookie jar; Oh dear, I just forgot to go, and have them fix the car; Catch up on the ironing, scrub the kitchen floor, answer phone and doorbell, need I list some more? My pet peeve, I must admit, you surely will agree; when someone asks, "Are you employed?", I answer "No, not me!"***
- **Psalm 127**, "Children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is his reward." You know one translator says you could translate the word "heritage" into "assignment." **"Children are an assignment from the Lord."** The real "homework" is in the home. You do the work in the lives of those children. **They're an assignment.**
- ***"Each of us is divinely chosen, to be the mother of each child under our care." - Elisa Morgan***

- *"There is no more important job in the universe, than to raise a child to love their Creator, live a productive life, and serve humanity. How ridiculous that a woman should have to apologize for wanting to fulfill that historic role! - James Dobson*
- **Charles Spurgeon describes the seriousness with which his mother took her assignment:** *"I cannot tell you how much I owe to the solemn words of my good mother. While we were still little children, we sat round the table and read verse by verse, and she explained the Scripture to us. Then came the time of mother's prayer. I remember on one occasion her praying like this: "Now, Lord, if my children continue on in their sins, it will not be from ignorance that they perish. And my soul must bear a swift witness against them at the day of Judgement, if they do not come to Christ in salvation!" That thought of my own mother bearing witness against me, pierced my conscience and stirred my heart. This pleading with God for them, and pleading with them for God, is the true way to bring children to Christ."*

2. A Mother's COST (v.39) - "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

- **NLT** - *"If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it."*
- For a mother, this speaks of the sacrificial service that is given in fulfilling God's calling on your life as a **GODLY MOTHER.**
- **John 13:3-5,12-15 NKJV** - *"Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. ... So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you."*
- **"What Is A Mother?"** (by Fred Kruse) - *"Somewhere between the youthful energy of a teenager and the golden years of a woman's life, there lives a marvelous and loving person known as **"Mother."***

A mother is a curious mixture of patience, kindness, understanding, discipline, industriousness, purity, and love.

A mother can be at one and the same time, both the "love sick counselor" to a heart broken daughter, and also "head football coach" to an athletic son.

A mother can sew the tiniest stitch in the material for that dainty prom dress and she is equally experienced in threading through the heaviest traffic in the family SUV.

A mother is the only creature on earth who can cry when she's happy, laugh when she's heartbroken, and work when she's feeling ill.

A mother is as gentle as a lamb and as strong as a giant. Only a mother can appear helpless, but in reality put the lid on the fruit jam so tightly, that even Dad can't get it off.

A mother is a picture of femininity when Dad is near, but a marvel of resourcefulness when she's all alone.

A mother has the angelic voice of a member of the heavenly choir as she sings a lullaby to a baby held tight in her arms; yet this same has the power of a megaphone when she call her kids in for supper.

A mother has the fascinating ability to be almost everywhere at once and she alone can somehow squeeze an enormous amount of living into an average day.

A mother is "old fashioned" to her teenager; just "Mom" to her third-grader; and simply "Mommy" to her two year old.

But there is no greater thrill in life, that to point to that wonderful woman and be able to say to all the world, **"That's my mother!"**

- **"Dear Mom: As I walk through the "Museum of memories" in my mind, and survey all that you've done for me, I can now clearly see, I OWE YOU for your time, day and night. I OWE YOU for your example, consistent and dependable. I OWE YOU for your support, stimulating and challenging. I OWE YOU for your counsel, wise and quiet. I OWE YOU for your insight, keen and honest. I OWE YOU for your faith, solid and sure. I OWE YOU for your hope, ceaseless and indestructible. I OWE YOU for your love, devoted and deep. I OWE YOU for your sacrifices, numerous and selfless."** - Chuck Swindoll
- **There was a great preacher named G. Campbell Morgan who lived a century ago.** He was a great Bible teacher and preacher in England. G. Campbell Morgan got married and had four sons, four sons - all of them became preachers. But at a family reunion when neighbors and friends and family were all gathered, and one of the neighbors asked one of the sons, "So who's the best preacher in your home?" Thinking they would get the answer, "Well, Dad," or "my older brother." The young man said, **"Oh, hands down, it's my mom. She's the best preacher in our house."**
G. Campbell Morgan himself said that he got his love for ministry and the Word of God and preaching from his mother. He writes this: "My dedication to preaching the Word was maternal. The first Bible stories I heard, I heard from my mother."
- **"No one is poor, who has a godly mother!"** - Abraham Lincoln
- **"Of all the people I have ever known, my mother had the greatest influence on me...What a comfort it was for me to know that no matter where I was in the world, my mother was praying for me..The influence of a mother upon the lives of her children cannot be measured. They know and will absorb her example and attitudes when it comes to honesty, self-control, kindness, and diligence."** - **Billy Graham**

3. **A Mother's CROWN** (v.40-42) - "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

- Because of your bearing your **CROSS intentionally**, and because of the great **COST sacrificially**, you will be **CROWNED eternally and permanently**, by God Himself in Heaven!
 - **NLT** - "If you receive a prophet as one who speaks for God, you will be given the same reward as a prophet. And if you receive righteous people because of their righteousness, you will be given a reward like theirs. And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded."
 - "reward" is the Greek word "**μισθός**" or "**misthos**" meaning "a payment for work, a wage for labor, a reward for services rendered."
 - **Heb 11:6 NKJV** - "...he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."
 - **Heb 6:10 NKJV** - "For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister."
 - **Rev 22:12 NLT** - "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds."
 - "**Only GOD Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian mother in the molding of character in her children**." - Billy Graham
- The LORD keeps meticulous account of EVERY act of service you perform for Him as a faithful godly mother:**
- **Matt 10:30 NLT** - "And the very hairs on your head are all numbered."
 - **Psalms 56:8 NLT** - "You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book."
 - **Matt 6:6 NLT** - "But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."
 - **Florence Chadwick, a world record swimmer, attempted to a new feat in 1952...**
- Mothers will be rewarded and CROWNED at the Judgment Seat of Christ:**
- **1 Cor 3:11-14 NLT** - "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have--Jesus Christ. Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials--gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward."

- **Rev 4:4,10-11 NLT** - "Twenty-four thrones surrounded him, and twenty-four elders sat on them. They were all clothed in white and had gold crowns on their heads. ... 10 the twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say, 11 "You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased."

These CROWNS signify the Ministry & Authority they will possess in the Kingdom of Heaven:

- **Luke 19:15-19 NLT** - "After he was crowned king, he returned and called in the servants to whom he had given the money. He wanted to find out what their profits were. The first servant reported, 'Master, I invested your money and made ten times the original amount!' "'Well done!' the king exclaimed. 'You are a good servant. You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you, so you will be governor of ten cities as your reward.'" The next servant reported, 'Master, I invested your money and made five times the original amount.' "'Well done!' the king said. 'You will be governor over five cities.'"
- **Rev 2:27 NLT** - "They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots."
- **Rev 3:21 NLT** - "Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne."
- **Teddy Roosevelt's return from an African safari hunt...**
- **1 Cor 15:58 NLT** - "So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."
A mother's job seems to never end, but she'll receive a CROWN that will never fade, and a ministry that will never stop, and an intimacy with her King which will last for eternity!
- **Are you perfect as a mom? Of course not.** You're never expected to be. But, **THANK YOU** for your love! **THANK YOU** for honoring the Lord! **THANK YOU** for your tenderness! **THANK YOU** for your godliness!
- **That is precisely why the Lord will honor you so greatly:** You've carried the **CROSS**, you've paid the **COST**, and so you'll wear the **CROWN** in the Kingdom, for being a faithful godly Mother!