

# A Mother's Legacy

5/10/2026

Sunday Morning Sermon (5-Points)

## Proverbs 31:10–30 (ESV):

- 10 An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.
- 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.
- 12 She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.
- 13 She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.
- 14 She is like the ships of the merchant; she brings her food from afar.
- 15 She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens.
- 16 She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- 17 She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong.
- 18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.
- 19 She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.
- 20 She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- 21 She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet.
- 22 She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- 23 Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.
- 24 She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant.
- 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.
- 26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- 27 She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- 28 Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:
- 29 "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."
- 30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised

## 2 Timothy 1:3-5 (ESV):

- 3 I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

4 As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy.

5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

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## Introduction

### Acknowledge the following:

Mother's Day means a lot of different things to a lot of different women.

For many, this is a beautiful day where you are celebrated, appreciated, and reminded of how loved you are, and you absolutely deserve that.

But for others, today can be difficult.

For some, this day is a reminder of the loss of a child through tragedy, sickness, or miscarriage.

For others, this day highlights the pain of wanting children and wondering if motherhood will ever happen.

And for some women, motherhood simply has never been the desire or path God has placed before you, and days like today can sometimes feel awkward or uncomfortable.

So, as we honor mothers this morning, we also want to honor and value every woman.

My prayer is that you hear my heart this morning as we celebrate the incredible influence God has given women.

You know, it would be nice if every child viewed their mother the way the Bible describes her value.

I heard someone say the following before:

- To a four-year-old, Mommy can do anything.

- To an eight-year-old, Mom knows a lot.
- To a twelve-year-old, Mom doesn't know much.
- To a sixteen-year-old, Mom doesn't understand anything.
- To a twenty-five-year-old, Mom might know a thing or two.
- To a thirty-five-year-old, it's probably best to ask Mom first.
- To a fifty-year-old, many wish they still could ask Mom.
- To a seventy-year-old, people often wonder what Mom would have said.

There is a lot of truth in that, isn't there?

Children often go through stages in how they view their mothers. When they are little, Mom knows everything. Then comes the stage where they think Mom knows nothing. Then eventually they grow old enough to realize just how wise she really was all along.

A mother's legacy is one of the most powerful influences God has placed in this world.

Since the beginning of time, women have shaped families, influenced nations, strengthened churches, and changed lives.

And often, they have done it quietly, faithfully, and without recognition.

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## **1. A Mother's Legacy Is Built with the Future in Mind**

In Proverbs 31, we find the description of a strong and godly woman.

Listen to these words: "Who can find a virtuous and capable wife? She is more precious than rubies."

Proverbs 31:10

So, how does the book of Proverbs describe a godly woman?

- hardworking,
- wise,
- generous,
- dependable,
- compassionate,
- and faithful.

She cares deeply for her family and uses her influence to bless others.

Then verse 25 says:

“She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.”

I love that verse.

She laughs without fear of the future not because life is easy, but because her confidence is in God.

This woman understands something important:

Life is bigger than the moment she is currently living in.

Everything she does has the future in mind.

- The way she manages resources.
- The way she speaks.
- The way she teaches.
- The way she loves.
- The way she prepares her children.

She understands that influence matters.

And church, influence is one of the greatest gifts God gives us.

Many of the most important things mothers do will never make headlines.

But they shape generations.

Some of the greatest sermons are never preached behind a pulpit.

They are preached:

- around dinner tables,
  - during bedtime prayers,
  - through acts of sacrifice,
  - in moments of encouragement,
  - and in everyday faithfulness.
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## **2. A Mother's Legacy Can Shape Generations**

We see this clearly in the life of Timothy.

Paul writes in 2 Timothy 1:5:

“I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice.”

Timothy became one of the most influential pastors and leaders in the early church.

But before Timothy was a preacher, he was a child watching the faith of his mother and grandmother.

The Bible tells us that Timothy had been taught the Scriptures from childhood.

Who taught him?

His mother Eunice.

His grandmother Lois.

These women poured truth into his life long before Paul ever disciplined him.

And because of their influence, Timothy became a powerful servant of God.

Church never underestimates the impact of consistent faithfulness.

You may not always see immediate results.

You may not always feel appreciated.

You may wonder if your efforts matter.

But every prayer matters.

Every conversation matters.

Every act of faith matters.

Sometimes seeds planted quietly produce fruit years later.

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### **3. The Greatest Legacy Is Spiritual Influence**

When we think about legacy, we often think about:

- money,
- accomplishments,
- possessions,
- or success.

But the greatest legacy any mother can leave behind is faith.

The truth is that for many of the great leaders in Scripture, there was a faithful woman somewhere in their story.

Consider the following:

- Jochebed, the mother of Moses, courageously protected her son.
- Deborah, who helped lead Israel to victory.
- Naomi, who guided Ruth toward the one true God.
- Hannah, who prayed faithfully for Samuel.
- Mary, the mother of Jesus, whose faith changed the world.

Again and again throughout Scripture, God used faithful women to shape history.

And the same is true today.

Your influence reaches farther than you realize.

Not only mothers, but grandmothers, aunts, teachers, mentors, neighbors, and spiritual mothers.

You may never fully know the impact your faithfulness has on someone else.

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#### **4. Our Culture Needs Godly Influence Again**

One of the challenges we face today is that many responsibilities once carried out primarily within the home have been handed over to others.

Families are busy.

Schedules are overwhelming.

Life moves fast.

And because of that, it becomes easy to let screens, systems, and culture shape our children more than intentional relationships do.

We rely on schools to teach values.

We rely on social media to shape identity.

We rely on churches to provide spiritual formation while rarely talking about God at home.

And we are beginning to see the effects of that all around us.

But church there is still hope.

God still works through faithful people.

And lasting influence still begins in the home.

It begins with ordinary people faithfully pointing the next generation toward Christ.

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## **5. God Does Not Require Perfection**

Now let me say something important.

When we read Proverbs 31, some women immediately feel discouraged.

You may hear all these qualities and think:  
“I could never measure up to that.”

Maybe instead of feeling encouraged today, you feel like you’ve failed.

But listen carefully:

There is no such thing as a perfect mother.

There is no such thing as a perfect woman.

Every woman God used in Scripture had a different story.

Some were married.

Some were widowed.

Some had children.

Some did not.

Some struggled deeply.

Some made mistakes.

Yet God still used them.

**Why?**

Because God is not looking for perfection.

He is looking for surrender.

God can do incredible things through anyone who is fully devoted to Him.

You do not have to have it all figured out for God to use your life.

Your value does not come from:

- society,
- appearance,
- accomplishments,
- relationships,
- or cultural expectations.

Your value comes from the fact that you were created in the image of God and deeply loved by Him.

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## **So, What Makes a Godly Mother Whose Legacy Will Never Be in Vain?**

**(7-Points)**

### **1. They Trust God**

A godly mother understands that she cannot control every circumstance, but she can trust the One who does.

Through difficult seasons, uncertainty, heartbreak, and even fear for her children's future, she places her confidence in God's promises rather than her own strength.

Proverbs 31 says:

“She laughs without fear of the future.”

#### **Why?**

Because her faith is in the Lord.

A mother's trust in God teaches her family that faith is not just something we talk about on Sundays it is something we live every day.

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### **2. They Are Generous Toward Others**

A godly mother lives with open hands and an open heart.

She gives:

- her time,
- her energy,
- her wisdom,
- her compassion,
- and often her own comfort for the sake of others.

Proverbs 31:20 says: “She extends a helping hand to the poor and opens her arms to the needy.”

Her generosity leaves a lasting impact because people remember how she made them feel loved and cared for.

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### **3. They Obey God**

A godly mother understands that obedience to God matters more than approval from the world.

She seeks to honor God:

- in her words,
- in her decisions,
- in her priorities,
- and in the way she leads her family.

Her life becomes an example that following God is worth it, even when it is difficult.

Children may not remember every lesson they were taught, but they will remember the example they witnessed.

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### **4. They Are Always Willing to Forgive**

One of the greatest reflections of Christ is a forgiving heart.

A godly mother understands that just as Jesus has forgiven us, we are called to forgive one another.

That does not mean she is weak.

It means she is filled with grace.

Families are imperfect.  
Children make mistakes.  
Relationships experience hurt.

But a forgiving spirit creates healing, restoration, and peace within the home.

Sometimes the greatest lesson a child learns is not from discipline, but from mercy.

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## **5. They Have a Servant's Spirit**

A godly mother serves others selflessly.

Much of what mothers do goes unseen:

- the sacrifices,
- Late nights,
- Prayers,
- the worries,
- constant care for others.

Yet they continue serving anyway.

Jesus Himself said:

“Whoever wants to be great must become a servant.”

A servant's heart reflects the very heart of Christ.

And often the quietest acts of service leave the deepest legacy.

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## **6. They Encourage Us**

A godly mother speaks life into those around her.

Her words bring:

- wisdom,
- comfort,
- correction,
- strength,
- and encouragement.

Proverbs 31:26 says:

“When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness.”

The world tears people down enough already.

A godly mother helps build people up.

Many people are where they are today because someone believed in them when they doubted themselves.

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## **7. They Love Unconditionally**

Perhaps the greatest reflection of God’s love is unconditional love.

A godly mother loves:

- through failures,
- through mistakes,
- through disappointments,
- and through difficult seasons.

Her love becomes a picture of the grace God shows us every day.

That kind of love changes lives.

And long after flowers fade and gifts are forgotten, unconditional love becomes part of the legacy she leaves behind.

## **Conclusion**

Some of the greatest acts of faithfulness in this world happen quietly.

Many of us are here today because somewhere in our story there was a faithful woman:

- who prayed for us,
- encouraged us,
- sacrificed for us,
- taught us,
- believed in us,
- and pointed us toward God.

So today, we honor you.

We thank God for mothers.

We thank God for grandmothers.

We thank God for spiritual mothers.

We thank God for faithful women.

And my prayer is that all of us would recognize the influence God has given us and use it for His glory.

Because a mother's legacy can shape generations.