

What We Can Do

I. Primary Assignments

- ❖ **Godly Men, Godly Husbands, Godly Fathers**
- ❖ **Godly Women, Godly Wives, Godly Mothers**

Matthew 15:4 (NIV®)

For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.'

John 19:25-27 (NIV®)

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

II. God at Work

A. At Work **For Us** — Restoration

Luke 7:12-15 (NIV®)

¹² As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out--the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. ¹³

When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry."

¹⁴ Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still. He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" ¹⁵ The dead man sat up and began to talk, and

Jesus gave him back to his mother.

1. Prodigal Power

Luke 15:24 (NIV®)

For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

2. A Reminder — Train & Release

Mark 10:6-8 (NIV®)

⁶ "...at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' ⁷ 'For this reason **a man will leave his father and mother** and be united to his wife, ⁸ and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one.



Proverbs 22:6 (NASB®)

Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

B. At Work **Through Us**

1. Intercession

Matthew 15:22-28 (NIV®)

²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! **My daughter is suffering terribly** from demon-possession." ²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

²⁶ He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs."

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

²⁸ Then Jesus answered, "**Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.**" And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Hebrews 10:24–27 (NIV®)

²⁴ And let us consider how we may **spur one another on toward love and good deeds.** ²⁵ Let us **not give up meeting together**, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us **encourage one another**—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. ²⁶ If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷ but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

2. A Mother's Prompting

Matthew 20:20-22 (NIV®)

²⁰ **Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him.** ²¹ "What is it you want?" he asked. She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom." ²² "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered.

Mark 6:22-24 (NIV®)

²² When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." ... ²⁴ **She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"** "The head of John the Baptist," she answered.



John 2:1-5 (NIV®)

¹ On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, **Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."** ⁴ "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

C. At Work **With Us** — Cooperation

Luke 1:35-38 (NIV®)

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ... ³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God." ³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. **"May it be to me as you have said."** Then the angel left her.

Matthew 1:24 (NIV®)

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I pray that out of your glorious riches you may strengthen us with power through your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. May we be rooted and established in love, having power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. In Jesus' name, amen.

—Adapted from Ephesians 3:14–19 (NIV®)