

**“Mom – Our Great Encourager”**  
**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

**Most Influential**

I asked one of my small groups which is comprised of 20 to 30 something-year-old couples, “Who is the most influential person in your life,” and with only one exception everyone said “My mother.” Happy Mother’s Day mom!

- “Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise...” (Proverbs 31:31)

**William Barclay**, *“One of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement.... It is easy to discourage others. The world is full of discouragers. We have a duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. Blessed is the one who speaks such a word.”*

**Our Calling**

We are called to the ministry of encouragement. ENCOURAGEMENT= coming along side another to assist; pouring courage into someone who needs it. We need not look too far before we find someone who needs it. Mom, you are our great encourager. Your words are powerful. They penetrate deep within the subconscious spirit of your children. Make your words encouraging and uplifting.

**I am encouraged...**

**1. ...by what I SENSE.**

Encouragement comes by what’s called *“focused attention.”* Mary and Martha couldn’t believe that Jesus was coming to their home. Martha was busy *preparing* for Jesus, but Mary was *focused* on Jesus. Mary did the best thing.

**2. ...by what I HEAR.**

Moms are gifted listeners. Thank you. What we sense comes first, but then we are encouraged by what we hear. The Bible is filled with instructions on words and how they affect and enhance relationships (see Proverbs 15:30, 12:25, and 25:11)

**3. ...by what I READ.**

Many of you have been encouraged by notes and cards that you’ve received from someone in this church. What you read often encourages you - save those cards and letters. This week you should take the time to write a note of encouragement to someone who needs it.

**4. ...by what I FEEL from others.**

We’re talking about touch, which is something most are afraid of in our culture. Jesus touched people quite often. The skin is the sensory receiver of many messages – one of them being encouragement.

**Family Night – Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

- **Elementary School** – Ask, “Why are two better than one? What do you love most about your mom? Name something special your mother does for you. How can you show your mom that you love her?”
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, “Why do people need encouragement? How are you most encouraged? What do you love and appreciate most about your mom? How does mom encourage you?”

**Prayer:** “Thank you Father for our mom. We want to show her how much we love her. Amen.”

**Velocity (Middle and High School Students)**

**Velocity:** Meets this Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

**Gravity:** Gravity Today in Both Services.

**Today’s Songs**

*The Lord’s Prayer*.....Matt Maher

*Goodness of God*.....Bethel

*Even So Come*.....Passion

**Musicians Needed**

We are looking for musicians to play in the band on Sundays. Fill out a Communication Card. Thanks!

**Happy Mother’s Day! Picture Setting in the Lobby.**

**Summer Camp “Amazonia” June 8-12**

For **Current** Pre-K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. Register online. Cost is \$20. This week is the last week to register and get a T-shirt. Please help us donating snack items. List is at the Welcome Desk.

**Graduation Recognition**

Next Sunday, May 17, is Graduate Recognition. We will ask all graduates to step up on stage and their parents to congratulate them on their accomplishment.