

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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“Honoring Godly Mothers”

By Brian Meade

Today is Mother’s Day, a day in which we honor mothers all across this country for all the work they do in raising children to be the next generation of Americans. But even more than that, I want us to consider the honor that a godly mother has— more than just being a mother— as one who fears the Lord.

But sadly, we live in a country where babies are purposely born out of wedlock, just for the welfare benefits. In situations like that, the children suffer from mothers who fail to treat the role of motherhood with respect and dignity as they should. It is entirely one thing to biologically have children, but a completely different matter entirely to be serious about the role of motherhood.

We especially need to honor godly mothers who see the great value in being a mom, a good keeper of the home, a devoted wife, a teacher & trainer of children, a referee in all disputes & conflicts among kids, and most importantly— a faithful Christian.



The word *honor* has to do with showing high respect, great esteem, looking up to, admiring, and paying tribute to someone’s work or deeds. In the area of mothers, a godly mother stands head and shoulders above all others as being worthy of more honor. For this we honor her in recognizing and appreciating the treasure that she is. In Proverbs 31:10, the wise man shows us just how priceless she is, when he says, “*An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.*” It takes an excellent wife to be a great mother to her children.

Let’s look at some reasons to honor our godly mother:

(1) For All The Sacrifices She Has Made to God & For Us.

When we look back on our family time together, whether past or present, we can see one thing that stands out about mom, and that is her life of sacrifice she chose to benefit her family. It starts with the sacrifices of becoming a Christian and devoting her life to God (Romans 12:1-2). God teaches all who come to Him to learn sacrifice as a way of life (Hebrews 11:24-25; I Peter 2:5).

Godly mothers will put their families needs before their own in order to see to it their children have what they need. A mother’s love is what motivates her to do what she does. As we know, love makes even the biggest sacrifices not seem so big for our family. May we honor her sacrifices always!

(2) For Bringing Us To Church Services When We Were Young.

When we were young, our mother may not have been the only one to bring us to church gatherings when were infants and small children, but she usually got the harder part of the challenge! Yes, bringing young and precious

infants to services is hard on Dad too, but not nearly as much. Moms bear the greater part of nursing and wrestling with little ones as a struggle during worship.

Often it is the moms that will take a crying baby to the nursery to not disturb others during these challenging times. It may be said many times that it is hard for her to really feel like she can give her complete undivided focus to her worship in the nursing and toddler years. But we all need to be extremely grateful for moms who make these kind of sacrifices and bring their kids faithfully to every worship and Bible study. Truly, moms like this will have their reward!

Why do moms (and dads) do this? It is first and foremost because they don't want to miss the assembling of the saints in worship to God and to fulfill their own duties to God (Hebrews 10:22-25). But even more than that, they want their children to see how important it is to be there as well. Even if they don't express it in words, their actions speak louder than words!

Mothers want their children to have the same love for God and His kingdom that they have and, "...*Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*" (Matthew 6:33) When moms put worship as a priority above all other things, their children will remember that forever.

(3) For Teaching Us To Know God, The Bible, & Good Morals.

Another great service that godly mothers do for their children is to make sure their kids get their spiritual training in the word of God. It is one thing to bring them to church services where the Bible is taught to them on a weekly basis—but they also need it from the home. Fathers and mothers should be working together to see that their children are learning about God and His ways from an early age. The father, as a spiritual leader of the home, needs guide the home in what is right and good, but also needs the great support of a godly mother to the children. Both work together to influence their children in the right ways of God. It may be true that mothers who stay home with the children have more time with them during the day. That's when a mother's influence for spiritual training can be the greatest gift to her children.

In 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul commends Timothy for having a strong foundation of faith and even recognizes where it came from....*"For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well."*

It is extremely important that our kids get solid teaching from the word of God about who He is and what kind of morality He expects of us. Our children are bombarded with immorality on every side— therefore the need is extremely urgent to teach them truth (Ephesians 4:17-32).

(4) For Helping Us To Be The Best Person We Can Possibly Be.

Because a godly mother truly cares for her children in all of these ways, she has made her children to see the best life is only possible as a faithful child of God. When look back in our older and wiser days to remembering the legacy of a godly mother, we realize the greatest blessing we had while growing up in our home was a mother's love and care for her children.

It is then that we can agree with the wise saying of Proverbs 31:28-31, *"Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her, saying: "Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all." Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her the product of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates."* Because of our mother, we can all say we are a better person.

"Dry Classes"

By Gary Henry

Bible classes teachers are a hardy lot. They have to be to continue to teach when, in spite of all of their ability, dedication and preparation, they repeatedly are blamed for dry and boring classes, or for not provoking enough class discussion. Bible classes are a two-way proposition. Teachers who prepare their lessons well and teach in the way that is most comfortable to them ought not to bear *all* the guilt when a class is less than exciting. They cannot stimulate edifying discussion among students who have done little or no diligent Bible study at home.

It has been my experience that the only students who have worthwhile comments to make in a class are those who have primed their pumps by hard, honest, study at home. Those who *have* do not have to be cajoled into speaking up. They are excited about what they have learned and are ready to share it. Those who *have not* will not contribute to the class simply because they have nothing to contribute. Among students who have studied, a teacher never has to work very hard to promote class discussion. Perhaps we forget, occasionally, that students, as well as teachers, can be boring.

News and Notes: Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Martha Norvell (Mississippi Care), June Lawson (Lisa Busby's Mom), Clois Wright, Debbie Keplinger, Gaddy Hall, Janis Johnson, Daniel Holloway, Tammy Kilgore (Jerry's niece), Betty Hurst, Peggy Harville (cancer), Linda Harris, Karey Trimble.
Katie Ward Coburn, Randy Ferrell

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Paul Johnson
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "How To Handle Criticism"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Paul Johnson
The Book of Acts (Jason Longstreth)
Lesson 9, Page 36, Question #1

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Paul Busby
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Russell Briggs
1 Samuel 1:12-17
Song Leader: Chris Callahan
Lord's Supper: Paul Johnson
Assisting: Lee Busby & Dan Cottrell
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Hannah: An Example of a Godly Mother"
Closing Prayer: Nathan Meade

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

May 15th:

Auditorium Bible Class: Russell Briggs
Ezra, Nehemiah, & Esther (Mike Willis)
Page 37, Question #1
Invitation: Chris Callahan
Song Leader: Paul Busby
Closing Prayer: Tim Harris Jr.