TOPIC: MOTHERS' MEMORIAL (REVISITED)

Let us give supreme honour to our godly Mothers—they are gifts from God.

KEY POINTS

- We pause again on this special day to give praise to God for providing us with our mothers: Women of Worth, Daughters of Zion, Maternal Angels, "Mom".
- The 5th Commandment instructs us to honour our mother, the woman who brought us into the world and invested her life into us. Most likely an overwhelming majority of women would agree that there is no higher calling, no greater responsibility, no greater joy, no greater fulfillment, and no occupation more worthy, than that of being a mother!
- A mother gives life (Eve, the first mother: Genesis 3:20).
- A mother nurtures—her hugs, her cuddles, her kisses, and her smile literally give strength to her children.
- A mother's touch is therapeutic—it wipes away tears, strokes all the places that hurt, and demonstrates her strength. Look at your mother's hands sometimes. Hold them in your own and caress them. Remember her touch, and the many, many times she has caressed you!
- A mother's love always seeks the best for her child (e.g. the two mothers before Solomon, 1 Kings 3:26; the Shunamite woman's son/Elisha, 2 Kings 4:18-37).
- A mother's voice brings peace in the midst of a storm. When a baby cries, feeling upset and stressed, when a toddler or adolescent has experienced some of the issues and problems associated with life, Mom's voice is like the balm in Gilead. There is great comfort in just hearing her voice.
- A mother provides for her children—she will gladly deprive herself and do whatever is necessary to meet the needs of her child (e.g. Samuel's mother Hannah, 1 Samuel 2:19).
- A mother does everything in her power to protect her child (e.g. Moses' mother Jochebed, Exodus 2:1-4). She is like a lioness on the lookout for danger and is ever vigilant.
- A mother teaches her children. Our mothers have taught us most of the important lessons we have learned in life. These lessons may have been verbal or non-verbal, formal or informal, but she has been our teacher (Proverbs 1:8; 31:1, 26).
- A mother has tremendous insight—she knows her child. It's tough to fool your Mom.
- A mother is a trusted adviser (even if she is counseling us to do wrong (e.g. 42-year-old King Ahaziah and his mother Athaliah, 2 Chronicles 22:2-3).
- A mother is full of compassion—her heart aches for her child (e.g. Sisera's mother, Judges 5:28; Jesus' mother and unnamed aunt beside His cross, John 19:25).
- A mother's encouragement helps to spur us on to great accomplishments, and her approval is a gift more precious than gold.
- A mother's prayers go straight to God's heart because they come straight from her heart! She makes intercession for her children, and there is no sound more beautiful than hearing her prayers and worship to God. A mother's prayer has power!
- A mother's faith is transferred to her child (1 Timothy 1:5). If your child chooses not to serve God in their later years, let it not be because you didn't share the things of God with them. Keep the faith! Teach the faith! Live the faith!
- A mother is usually the glue that holds her family together.
- Our mother is a key influencer that we naturally imitate (Ezekiel 16:44).
- Be a true mother of Zion! Live so that your children will view your life as a shining memorial to motherhood!

Key Scriptures:
2 Timothy 1:5-7; Genesis 3:20;
Proverbs 1:8, 31:1, 26

Discussion Tools

1. Read Proverbs 31:10-29, which describes the attributes of a virtuous woman.
   - Are there any women like that in your life, or that you may have encountered?
   - How have these women displayed attributes that are listed in this scripture?
   - What other attributes have these women demonstrated that make them more precious than rubies?
   - Have these women impacted your life? In what way?
2. Take some time to pray for those who are mothers, motherly influences, spiritual mothers of Zion, etc.

Discipleship Project Family Connection

During a family devotion time this week, discuss:

- What do we know/believe about God's spoken word and the created world?
- How does the power of God's word benefit us today?
- How do our spoken words affect us and the world (people) around us?

Notes

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PRAYER TIME

Lord, thank you for the nurturing influences I have had thus far in my life. Continue to bless those who have blessed me, and continue to bear me up.

Small Group icebreaker: Tell a fond memory that you have of your mother or a mother figure in your life.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2016
PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS/COMMENTS:

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