MOTHERS' MEMORIAL

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 worthier than that of being a mother!
- A mother gives life. (See Genesis 3:20 on Eve, the first mother).
- A mother nurtures. Her hugs, cuddles, kisses and smiles literally give strength to her children.
- A mother's touch is therapeutic. Her touch wipes away tears, strokes all the places that hurt, and demonstrates her strength.
- 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, or 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 in 1 Samuel 2:19).
- A mother does everything in her power to protect her child (e.g. Moses' mother Jochebed in 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 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 in 2 Chronicles 22:2-3).
- A mother is full of compassion—her heart aches for her child (e.g. Sisera's mother in Judges 5:28; Jesus' mother and unnamed aunt beside His cross in John 19:25). A mother will fight for her child—out of love.

KEY SCRIPTURES:
2 Timothy 1:1-7; Genesis 3:20;
Proverbs 1:8, 31:1, 26

- A mother's encouragement spurs 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!

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. "A mother nurtures." In what way has your mother, or a mother figure, nurtured you during the course of your life?
2. "A mother teaches." What teachings has your mother/mother figure instilled in you that still holds true today? Now that you are older, do you find yourself exhibiting them to your family, friends, or even strangers?
3. A mother prays. Did your mother/mother figure pray for you? In what ways do you believe those prayers have affected your life?
4. Take a moment to pray for the mothers/mother figures in the group, that God will continue to guide and strengthen them, and grant them wisdom.

Prayer Time

Lord, thank You for the women You have placed in my life who have made me the person I am today. Please continue to guide them and bless them. In Jesus' Name, amen.

L.G. ice-Breaker: Who are the people who have had the most influence in your life? Do they have traits you try to emulate?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2018

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

(Reminds me/Confirms) (New idea) (Think about)

! (Do this) (Speaks to my heart) (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS