

**Mothers, God's Precious Gift
John 19:25 - 27**

Big Idea – Mothers are valuable and precious for many reasons.

1. Mothers give physical life to the entire human race – every single person has a mother!

Genesis 3:20 “Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.”

Biologically, the mother gives life to the precious little baby from the moment of conception. Biologically, women are designed for self-sacrifice. When pregnant, a woman's body focuses its primary attention to nurturing that new, growing life developing within her. Her body will automatically prioritize the needs of her unborn baby. And this inherent gift for self-sacrifice isn't only biological. After her children are born, a mother will continue to sacrifice herself for the needs of her children.

2. Mothers provide for their families.

Proverbs 31:10-31

10 It is hard to find a good wife, because she is worth more than rubies.

11 Her husband trusts her completely. With her, he has everything he needs.

12 She does him good and not harm for as long as she lives.

13 She looks for wool and flax and likes to work with her hands.

14 She is like a trader’s ship, bringing food from far away.

15 She gets up while it is still dark and prepares food for her family and feeds her servant girls.

16 She inspects a field and buys it. With money she earned, she plants a vineyard.

17 She does her work with energy, and her arms are strong.

18 She knows that what she makes is good. Her lamp burns late into the night.

19 She makes thread with her hands and weaves her own cloth.

20 She welcomes the poor and helps the needy.

21 She does not worry about her family when it snows, because they all have fine clothes to keep them warm.

22 She makes coverings for herself; her clothes are made of linen and other expensive material.

23 Her husband is known at the city meetings, where he makes decisions as one of the leaders of the land.

24 She makes linen clothes and sells them and provides belts to the merchants.

25 She is strong and is respected by the people. She looks forward to the future with joy.

26 She speaks wise words and teaches others to be kind.
27 She watches over her family and never wastes her time.
28 Her children speak well of her. Her husband also praises her,
29 saying, "There are many fine women, but you are better than all of them."
30 Charm can fool you, and beauty can trick you, but a woman who respects the LORD should
be praised.
31 Give her the reward she has earned; she should be praised in public for what she has done.

3. Mothers can influence their children in the right paths.

Proverbs 1:8 8 My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction.

Proverbs 6:20 20 My son, obey your father's commands, and don't neglect your mother's instruction.

Proverbs 31:1 1 The sayings of King Lemuel contain this message, which his mother taught him.

A MOTHER'S INFLUENCE

"My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her." George Washington

"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother." - "I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life." Abraham Lincoln

"There never was a woman like her. She was gentle as a dove and brave as a lioness... The memory of my mother and her teachings were, after all, the only capital I had to start life with, and on that capital I have made my way." Andrew Jackson

"I cannot tell you how much I owe to the solemn word of my good mother." Charles Haddon Spurgeon

4. Mothers can bring their children to Jesus and eternal life.

2 Timothy 1:3 Timothy, I thank God for you—the God I serve with a clear conscience, just as my ancestors did. Night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.

4 I long to see you again, for I remember your tears as we parted. And I will be filled with joy when we are together again.

5 I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.

2 Timothy 3:14 But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.

15 You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus.

5. Mothers always believe in their children.

John 2:1 Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,

2 and Jesus and his followers were also invited to the wedding.

3 The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine."

4 "Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

5 But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

6. Jesus' honor of His mother at the cross illustrates their value to God.

John 19:25 Standing near his cross were Jesus' mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When Jesus saw his mother and the follower he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son."

27 Then he said to the follower, "Here is your mother." From that time on, the follower took her to live in his home.

28

After this, Jesus knew that everything had been done. So that the Scripture would come true, he said, "I am thirsty."

7. Mothers' prayers are a powerful tool for all that is right and good.

1 Samuel 1:10 Hannah was so sad that she cried and prayed to the LORD.

11 She made a promise, saying, "LORD All-Powerful, see how sad I am. Remember me and don't forget me. If you will give me a son, I will give him back to you all his life, and no one will ever cut his hair with a razor."

25 After they had killed the bull for the sacrifice, Hannah brought Samuel to Eli.

26 She said to Eli, "As surely as you live, sir, I am the same woman who stood near you praying to the LORD.

27 I prayed for this child, and the LORD answered my prayer and gave him to me.

28 Now I give him back to the LORD. He will belong to the LORD all his life." And he worshiped the LORD there.

THE IMPACT OF A MOTHER'S PRAYER

Picture an old woman with a halo of silvered hair--the hot tears flowing down her furrowed cheeks--her worn hands busy over a washboard in a room of poverty--praying--for her son John--John who ran away from home in his teens to become a sailor--John of whom it was now

reported that he had become a very wicked man--praying, praying always, that her son might be of service to God. The mother believed in two things, the power of prayer and the reformation of her son. God answered the prayer by working a miracle in the heart of John Newton.

John Newton, the sailor-preacher, instrumental in abolishing slavery and the proclamation of the gospel. This resulted because a mother took God at His word and prayed that her son's heart might become as white as the soapsuds in the washtub.