

Viral Messages

Mother's Day

May 10, 2020

Since we have been doing everything over zoom lately I found a little video that I want you to look at. It's a viral job interview.

Show video: Worlds Toughest Job

We celebrate Mother's Day to show honor and respect to one of the most influential persons in our lives. We all have spent most formative years of our lives with our mothers and shared all joy and sorrows. Such is the greatness of our mom that she always tries to make us feel happy even in times of distress. Mom you have made an indelible imprint on our lives and on our world:

A little boy forgot his lines in a Sunday school presentation. His mother was in the front row to prompt him. She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it did not help. Her son's memory was blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, "I am the light of the world." The child beamed and with great feeling and a loud clear voice said, "My mother is the light of the world." - **Bits and Pieces, 1989**

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a written test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?" When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word **Mother- Unknown**

Mothers are unique; no one is more connected at birth or holds such a special place in our hearts. By design, mothers know how to bless others. They seek to give out more love than they take in. They work long hours at home with no pay, and many then go work their other job. Her touch can cool a fevered brow. Her words calm an upset child, inspire another and put "the fear of God" in those who need it. Mothers are the unspoken center of the universe for many a home . . . they are one-of-a-kind.

Mothers "live to give" first giving life, then giving continually to children and family, seeking the best for her family. Thank God for every mother who puts time, effort and

love into her children. It is a challenge these days with the current moral climate, the financial challenges many face and the spiritual battles with an adversary who is out to “steal, kill, and destroy” families. But in every generation, God is with us, and no one is up to the challenge more than a mother who puts her trust in God.

I want you to know, that what you are doing today and what you did in the past counted for something. I want to encourage you today, because the investment that you have made into your family is the most significant contribution in all of life. Don’t sell yourself short.

When we get caught up on all of the responsibilities of life, of work and church, it is easy to forget how significant mothering is to our world. It is not a short-term task that lasts for eighteen years and is over; is of eternal significance to each child. And these children will eventually impact our world. What is done in homes today, what is taught by our mothers to our children today will affect the lives of people in our world for decades to come.

Whether we have peace, whether there will be less crime, whether there will be a committed people who love Jesus, hinges on what you as mothers and fathers have done for your children. This is why we join together today, and honor our mothers—to affirm their significance, their worth, and their value.

In fact today, I want us to look at several gifts that are given by mothers to their children by modeling. Mothers model to us what it means to be a wife, and a mother. She models attitudes, values and behavior.

Turn with me to [2 Tim. 1:1-7](#).

Acts 16:1 tells us that Timothy had a Jewish mother and a Greek father. So when Paul addresses him here as his “beloved son”, he’s referring to their spiritual kinship. Paul personally disciplined Timothy and they had traveled extensively together as missionaries. In the verses that follow, we are going to discover the qualities that forged this young boy into a devout man of God, qualities that Timothy learned from his mother. Paul first mentions Timothy’s tears.

(Read [2 Tim. 1:4](#))

Paul remembers Timothy’s tenderness, a trait that is cultivated by example rather than something that is taught.

The first gift shown is tenderness.

Most often it is the mother’s example that encourages tenderness in a child. Mom, don’t lose that quality of tenderness...it is one of your greatest contributions to your daughters and sons. Your warm embrace, eager smile, and soft replies have been and continue to be a safe harbor for the child who’s tossed and battered by life. Mom, thank you for your gift of tenderness. This gift creates security in a child. This gift tells a child that no matter what happens, you are going to love them.

A second gift or quality given to Timothy by his mother was a genuine faith.

(Read [2 Tim. 1:5](#))

The Greek for “sincere” is “anupokritos”, which means “UN-hypocritical”. His faith had an authentic quality to it, a quality first modeled for him by Grandma Lois, and then by his mother, Eunice.

Then Paul urges Timothy to continue in the faith he learned in his childhood.

(Read [2 Tim. 3:14-15](#))

Timothy’s genuine faith was cultivated over years. At home.

Mom, it is the authentic model that you provide daily that shapes the heart. That is something that is cultivated and homegrown over a lifetime. It is in the home that we learn right from wrong, manners, how to laugh and how to give comfort and share tears. Thanks mom.

The third quality that Timothy learned refers to his self-esteem.

(Read [2 Tim. 1:6-7](#))

Look at *verse 7* again.

“for God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.”

The Greek term Paul uses for love is “agape”, which means “unselfishness.” It pictures a demonstrative love that seeks the highest good of another person.

And where is that type of love learned?

Most children usually first see agape love fleshed out in someone called “Mom”.

They see agape in a mother who gets up, without complaint, at all hours of the night to comfort a sick child...in a mother who continuously cooks and cleans or works so that another may be fed and refreshed...

In a mother that goes the extra mile past boredom to read for the hundredth time the child’s favorite story with first time enthusiasm. No one wears the garment of selfless love quite as naturally and as elegantly as a mother does...

A mother’s heart is where we learn to be tender, where faith is nurtured, along with confidence and love.

A great old country and western singer named Jimmy Dean, does one of those cry in your beer songs titled "I Owe You."

In the song a man is looking through his wallet and comes across a number of long-standing "I O U's" to his mother...which he names one by one.

Borrowing that idea, may I suggest that today, you unfold some of your own "I O U's" that are now yellow with age. Consider the priceless value of the one woman who made your life possible...your mother.

Think about her example, her support, her humor, her counsel, her humility, her hospitality, her insight, her patience, her sacrifices. Her faith. Her hope. Her love.

Abraham Lincoln said this: "He is not poor who has had a Godly mother. Indebted, but not poor.

Moms, on Mother's Day Sunday we rise up and call you blessed. But knowing you, you will feel uneasy in the limelight. You'll probably look for a place to hide...true servants are like that.