

The Price of a Godly Mom
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Happy Mother's Day to all you moms here this morning!

I want to encourage you this morning to keep on doing what may well be the most important and influential job in the world; being a mom.

I first wrote simply being a mom...Then I changed it because I remembered that there is nothing simple about being a mom!

To dedicate yourself to being a Godly mom is indeed your calling in life. Whatever else you may do, your influence as a mom and a grand mom is monumental.

What is a Godly mom like? What does she do all day? How does she live?

The greatest single example and description of this is found in the 31st Chapter of Proverbs, which we have been studying in our 9:45 Bible class for several weeks now.

Starting in verse 10 we read:

Proverbs 31:10-28

- 10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.
- 11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.
- 12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
- 13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.
- 14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.
- 15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.
- 16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.
- 17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.
- 18 She perceiveth that her merchandise *is* good: her candle goeth not out by night.
- 19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.
- 20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.
- 21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet.
- 22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.
- 23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.
- 24 She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.
- 25 Strength and honor *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.
- 26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.
- 27 She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Today we are going to give some of our children an opportunity to rise up and talk about their moms.

But, before we do, I would like to share with you some things you may not know about this virtuous woman we are reading about.

The chapter starts out:

Pro 31:1 The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him.

Pro 31:2 What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows?

Pro 31:3 Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.

Pro 31:4 *It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:*

Pro 31:5 Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

Pro 31:6 Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.

Pro 31:7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

Pro 31:8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.

Pro 31:9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

I. These are the words of King Lemuel (As inspired by the Holy Spirit).

A. *King Lemuel is Solomon.*

1. Lemuel means “belonging to God”.

2. This was written by Solomon, and Lemuel was apparently a title by which King Solomon was known by those close to him.

B. *The first nine verses are Solomon reiterating some of the things he learned from his mother as he was growing up.*

1. She warns him about women; he did not listen.

2. She warns him about the dangers of drinking; it is for those who have no hope; it is not for us!

3. She admonishes him to take up the cause for those who are in need.

Then Solomon begins in verse 10 to talk about what he saw in his mother as he was growing up.

II. Lemuel describes his mother.

A. He calls her virtuous.

1. You do understand; this is Bathsheba.
2. This is the lady that used to be married to a man named Uriah.
3. This is the lady that used to bathe naked on the roof top in sight of the king's palace.
4. This is a lady who was personally qualified to warn someone about the wrong kind of women.

B. But now, Bathsheba is not who she used to be!

1. Ladies, do you know what this means?
2. It means that you are not a prisoner of your past!
3. It means that even though some of you may not have started out so virtuous, the Lord can change all that.
4. It means that those who say you can never amount to anything for God because you have been divorced or because you had less than a Godly past reputation are just WRONG!

C. Sometimes those who work the hardest and accomplish the most are the ones who think they have the most to overcome.

1. All these attributes we read about Bathsheba are worthy and should be emulated by every woman.
2. But let me remind you of this; if you have placed your trust in Jesus to save you from your sins, He has overcome for you!
3. As we heard last week, forgiveness is a marvelous thing!

4. Romans 8:31-33

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can* be against us?
32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?
33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.

III. What we read here is what her son saw in her as he was with her every day.

A. *What do your children see in you every day?*

1. Do they see you doing their dad good and not evil every day?
2. Do they see you working hard; and teaching them to work hard?
3. Do they see you up early taking care of your household?
4. Do they see you taking care of yourself physically? You will likely live long enough to wish you had taken better care of yourself!
5. What about that law of kindness in her mouth? I think that must be that law that mothers and grandmothers teach which says, "if you can't say something good about somebody, don't say anything at all".
6. Do your children ever hear you gossip about others?

B. *Before we wrap things up today, I want to talk about the Price.*

Verse 10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

1. Most often we think of this verse as describing the incredible value of a woman such as this...and truly her value is far above rubies!
2. Yet, there is another aspect of this: Ladies, if you should aspire to become a Godly mom such as this woman was, there is a price also that you will likely pay.
3. Godliness always puts a target on your back and Satan will come for you; he will do his best to destroy you.

C. *Today, I'm going to tell you a story;* a true story about something that happened right here in our Church:

About eight, maybe nine years ago, two men in our Church decided that they knew more about how Lighthouse should be led than I do.

These two men set up a meeting with our Elder board to try and convince our Elders to recommend to the Church that I be fired.

Accusation after accusation was leveled against me; all of which was unfounded and found to be so by our Elders. Needless to say, it got ugly.

When these two men could make no headway against me, they began to attack my wife. She was accused of trying to run the Church.

I'll not get into the gossipy details except to say that our Elders knew better and did not receive the accusations.

These two men left the Church, took a few with them, then went out without authority and started another so-called Church which has since failed and disappeared completely off the scene.

Now, I want to tell you about someone by name. Her name is not Bathsheba, it's Lisa.

She is not only my wife, she is my personal secretary and she is our Church bookkeeper.

She has never made a purchase or executed any decision except what I have delegated to her in all these 20+ years.

The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, she has done me good and not evil all these past 30+ years!

Understandably so, she was devastated that two supposed Godly men that we both respected and trusted would viciously attack both me and her as they did.

Frankly, that incident was enough to make most anyone want to quit and walk away. Lisa is not only virtuous and beautiful, she is one of the strongest women you will ever meet.

She is not only still here; for many of you, she has held your hand and counselled you through some of the toughest and most devastating times of your life!

Do I ever feel like quitting? You've no idea!

That incident is just one of many attacks Satan has levelled against us in the last 20 years; but thanks in no small part to her strength, I am still here serving the Lord.

Some might wonder, did those men ever repent or apologize or ask forgiveness?

The answer is no, Satan has never apologized for anything he has tried to do to us. Why would we expect it?

We know that Satan is going to come after the preacher's wives, that's almost a given.

But ladies, he is also coming for you. If he can make Godly moms give up, he can probably rule the world!

This is one of the reasons we need each other so much. Stay the course, Mom...never give up!

In Conclusion:

Proverbs 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.

What do your children have to say about you?

Let's find out.

Conclude with children sharing something special about mom.